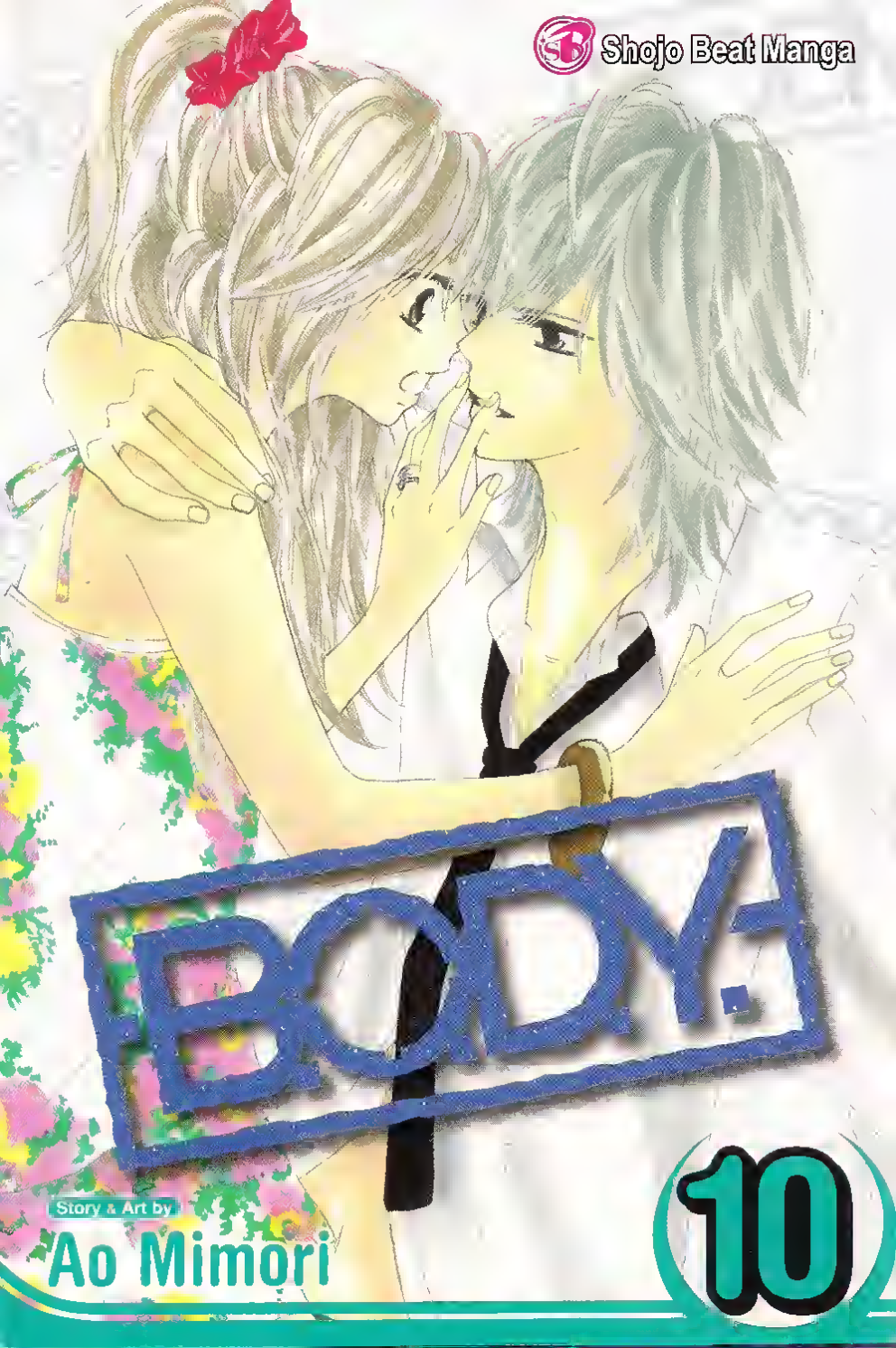
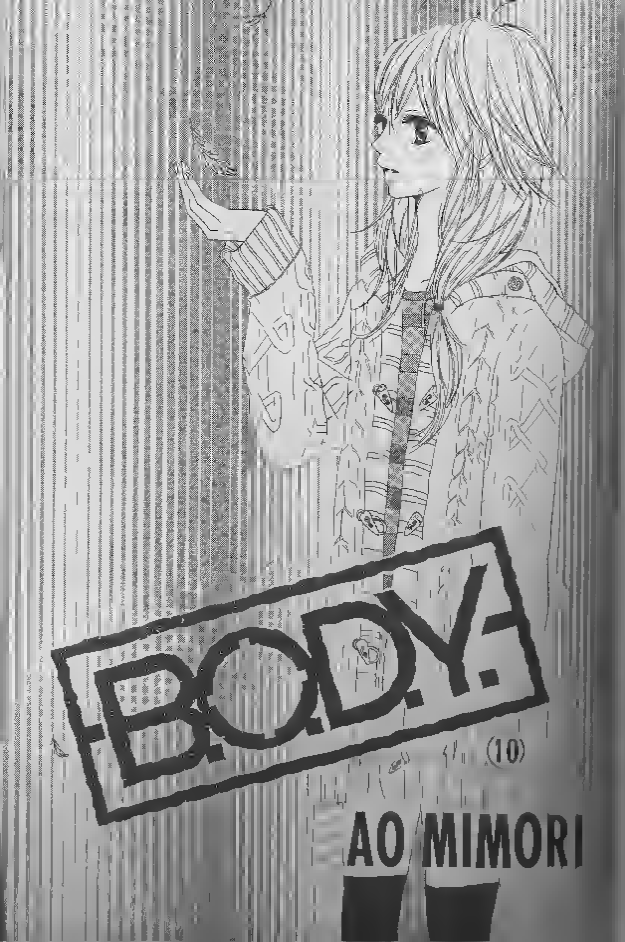

Shojo Beat Manga
B.O.D.Y.
Story & Art by
Ao Mimori
10



Contents

B.O.D.Y. ... 3

Bonus Section ... 176

The Story Thus Far...

Ryoko falls hard for Ryunosuke, the quiet, bespectacled cutie who sits next to her in class. Then she learns that he moonlights as a host—a guy who dates women for money! Soft-spoken bookworm by day, aggressive ladies' man by night. Ryu may be more than the inexperienced Ryoko can handle. But she can't seem to get him out of her head... or her heart.

Ryunosuke has to take after-school classes to keep from dropping out, which leaves Ryoko alone in the evenings. Kurama, a shy guy with a crush on Ryoko, invites her to a club to hear his band. Ryoko decides not to go, but Kurama's friend Shu forces her onto his motorcycle. Meanwhile, Miss Izumi finds Kurama's invitation, shows it to Ryunosuke and offers to take him to the club to investigate. They arrive just in time to see Kurama grab the mic and ask Ryoko to be his girlfriend!

Hello, everybody!

It's been a while!! How've you been?
Volume 10 is finally out!!! I'm happy and kind of embarrassed at the same time!!! Who knew it would go on this long? I don't think anybody did Thanks, everyone!!!

To celebrate the tenth volume, I did a color poster of all the characters The story's getting pretty turbulent, but everyone looks like they're getting along on the poster

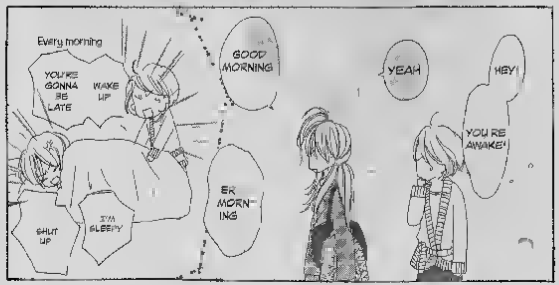
As usual, there are some totally useless bonus pages at the end Hope you enjoy them! poof

I received a lot of letters after volume 9 asking what was going to happen between those two Um, well All I can say is, "read on!!"

See you!

THIS ISN'T ANY GOOD FOR YOU
'BYE!
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT FOR A WHILE.
IT WAS ALL BECAUSE OF ME
YOU SHOULDN'T BE WITH A GUY LIKE ME.

RYOKO!
WAKE UP
YOU'RE GONNA BE LATE FOR SCHOOL
DAF
DAF
RYOKO!!
RYO
CHAK

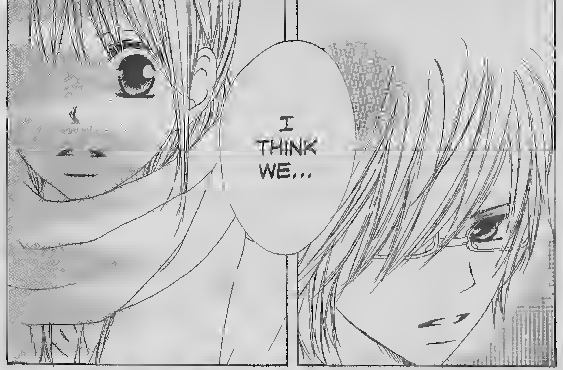

Every morning
YOU'RE GONNA BE LATE
WAKE UP
SHUT UP
I'M SLEEPY
GOOD MORNING
ER MORNING
YEAH
HEY!
YOU RE AWAKE!

HE WON'T BE SERIOUS.
Boom! Thomp!

MAYBE WE SHOULD BREAK UP.
NO MATTER HOW BAD IT GOT, I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT BREAKING UP
SURE, A LOT OF CRAZY STUFF HAS HAPPENED!
IT'LL BE OKAY.
BUT WE GOT THROUGH IT TOGETHER.

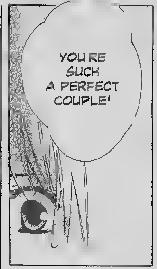
HE'LL JUST APOLOGIZE FOR YESTERDAY AND BE HIS NORMAL SELF.
RYOKO.
ABOUT LAST NIGHT.
BDMP

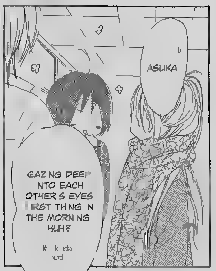
MORNING
MORNING
YOU'RE EARLY.
I'M SORRY I DIDN'T WAKE YOU UP THIS MORNING
GOOD.
NO, THAT'S FINE.
I'M SURE...


I THINK WE...

GOOD MORNING!
EEP
!

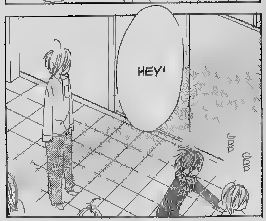
ABOUT LAST NIGHT
ME AND KO ARE ALWAYS FIGHTING Y'KNOW?
GRP

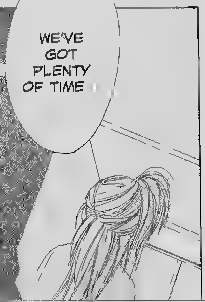

YOU'RE SUCH A PERFECT COUPLE!


ASUKA
GAZING DEEP INTO EACH OTHER'S EYES FIRST THING IN THE MORNING HUH?

BUT THE BELL HASN'T RUNG YET
SO WHAT?

HUH?
FIRST PERIOD'S GYM. LET'S GO.


HEY!


RYOKO!
WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF TIME!

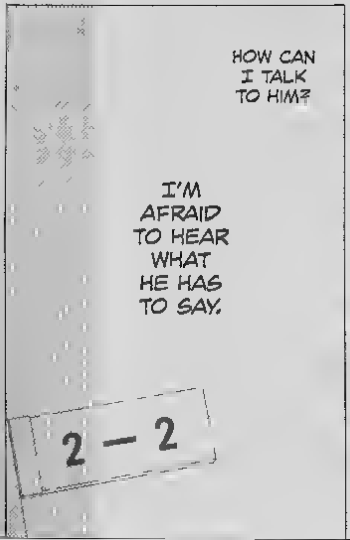
Hello again! As M-mon here I'll be freestyling it through these side notes again! Only those interested in my personal life should keep reading ♪

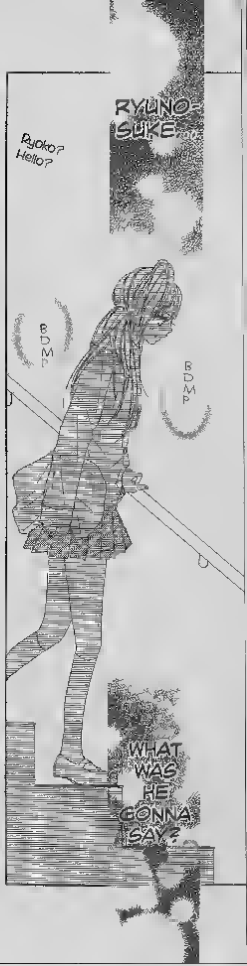
We got a lot of responses to the stuff I wrote about Ani-mal Crossing in the last volume but a few readers also responded to my affinity for foreign TV shows. That made me so happy ♪ ☺

In fact I recently subscribed to J-COM so I can get American TV on cable. It's a storm of shows from FOX and ABC! Eek!

I've been watching ANIMAL and FOX and ABC and the Discovery Channel and music channels 24/7. I love all of you too. Oh and I forgot to mention in the last volume that I watch Lost!! There's nobody I'm particularly rooting for on the show I just wanna find out what happens next. Oh but I hate that one guy (

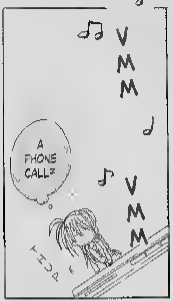
(2) To be continued

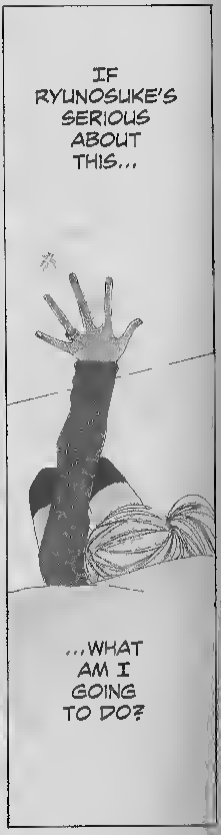




RYOKO!
HUH? SURE ABOUT WHAT?
YOU KNOW, DITCHING RYUNOSUKE AT SCHOOL.
HE WAS EVEN QUIETER THAN USUAL TODAY.
ARE YOU GUYS FIGHTING?
RYOKO?
ARE YOU SURE?

I'M GOING HOME WITH THE GIR..S TODAY
RYOKO!
SORRY
UH...
'BYE
UM, SEE YOU.
LET'S GO HOME.
OKAY

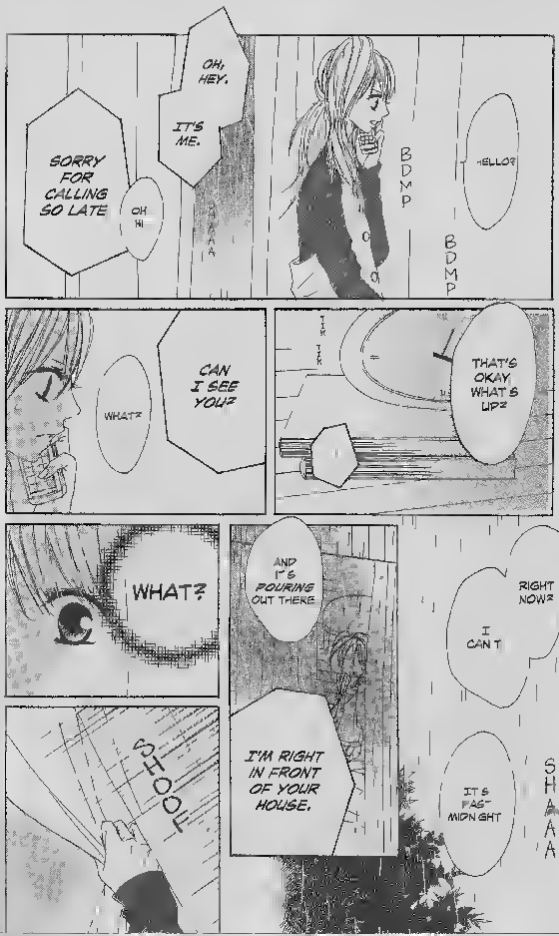




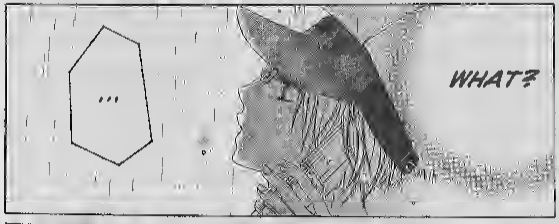
I KNOW...

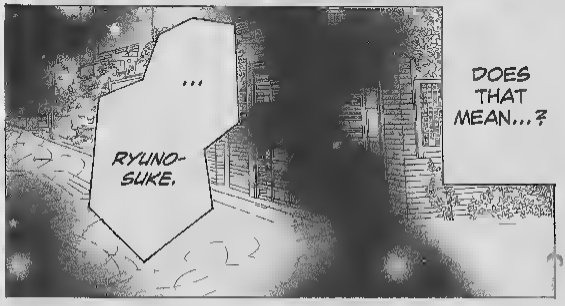
...AVOIDING HIM WON'T SOLVE ANYTHING.

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?


OH, HEY.
IT'S ME.
SORRY FOR CALLING SO LATE
OH HI
BDMP
BDMP
HELLO?
CAN I SEE YOU?
WHAT?
THAT'S OKAY. WHAT'S UP?
WHAT?
AND IT'S POURING OUT THERE.
I CAN'T
RIGHT NOW?
I'M RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOUR HOUSE.
IT'S PAST MIDNIGHT
SHAA
SHAA

I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU.
WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER AT SCHOOL TOMORROW.
THIS IS HARD TO TALK ABOUT AT SCHOOL.


...
WHAT?


...
RYUNO-SUKE.
DOES THAT MEAN...?

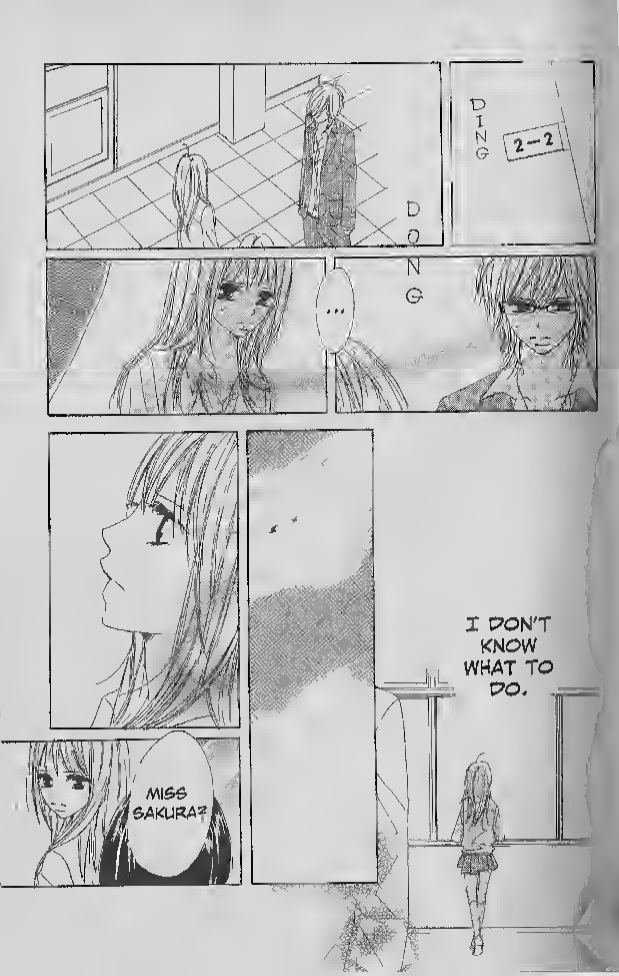
WHY?
DO YOU REALLY WANNA BREAK UP WITH ME?
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS ALL OF A SUDDEN?

THEN WHAT IS IT?
I ALREADY TOLD YOU I STILL WANT TO BE WITH YOU!
ARE YOU GONNA TELL ME IT'S FOR MY "OWN GOOD" AGAIN?
SO WHAT IS IT?

YOU HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING WRONG.
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT..
IS IT SOMETHING I DID? TELL ME...
NO.
YOU HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING WRONG.
!
SLAM

THIS IS WORSE THAN JUST BREAKING THINGS OFF, ISN'T IT?
...SORRY.
RYUNOSUKE...
WHAT RE YOU DOING?
It's raining
RYOKO-
CHAK
WAIT...
DO YOU KNOW WHAT TIME IT I...

DO YOU JUST NOT LIKE ME ANY-MORE?
I WOULDN'T BE HERE IF I DIDN'T LIKE YOU!


DING
2-2
DONG
...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.
MISS SAKURA?

...WHEN HE SAYS STUFF LIKE THAT?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO REACT...
RYOKO!
Come inside!
I WOULDN'T BE HERE IF I DIDN'T LIKE YOU!
...
RGH...

SLAM
OTAKU

RYUNO-SUKE WAS ACTING FUNNY YESTER-DAY.
IS EVERY-THING ALL RIGHT?
I'M SORRY ABOUT THE OTHER DAY.
WHAT?
WHAT DO YOU CARE?
WHAT'S GOING ON BETWEEN US IS NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!!
SAKURA
LEAVE US ALONE!

IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU.
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT, RYU.
I'M JUST WORRIED ABOUT YOU TWO.
WHAT IF IT DID?
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN BETWEEN YOU AND RYOKO?
...
HUH?
I KNOW I HAVE NO RIGHT TO BUTT IN AFTER WHAT I'VE DONE
BUT...
I'VE BEEN WORRIED
SINCE THAT NIGHT.

I'M FINE.
...
LOOK AT YOU, STARING INTO SPACE.
IS EVERY-THING ALL RIGHT?
HUH?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
MISS SAKURA WAS IN THE HALL
WITH EXACTLY THE SAME LOOK ON HER FACE.
YOU'VE BEEN ACTING STRANGELY EVER SINCE YOU DROPPED ME OFF THE OTHER NIGHT.

I SAID I COULDN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE
,BUT IT WASN'T BECAUSE OF YOU,
WHAT-EVER.
AFTER ALL, I'VE ALREADY TRIED...
...TO BREAK YOU TWO UP,
THEN WHAT IS IT?
RYUNOSUKE AND MISS IZUMI?
WHAT IS IT YOU CAN'T TAKE ANYMORE?

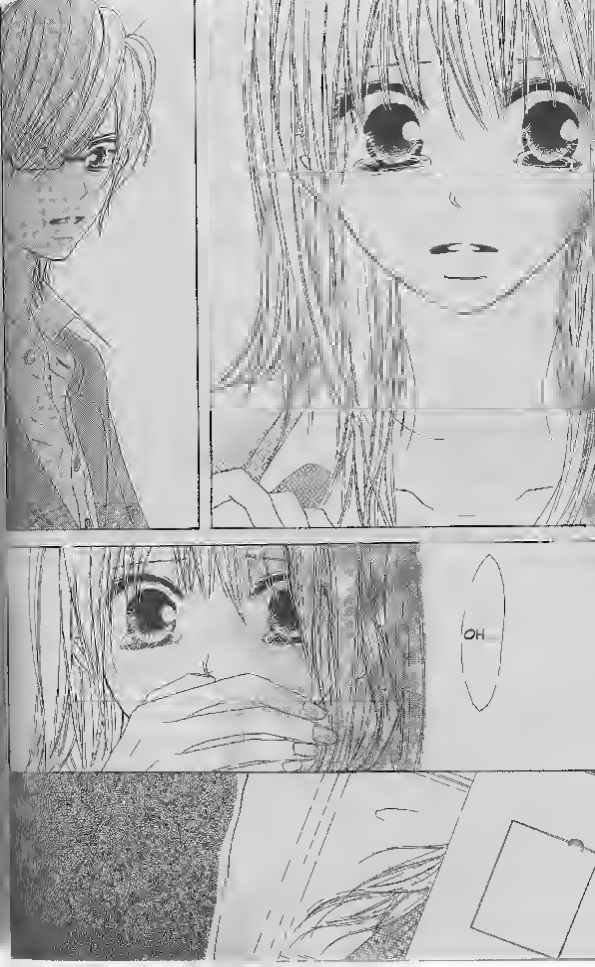
I CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE OF THIS.
...I WASN'T TRYING...
...TO MAKE YOU FEEL THAT WAY.
I HOPE RYUNO-SUKE'S STUDYING.
I KNOW IT'S NOT MY PLACE TO TALK.
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

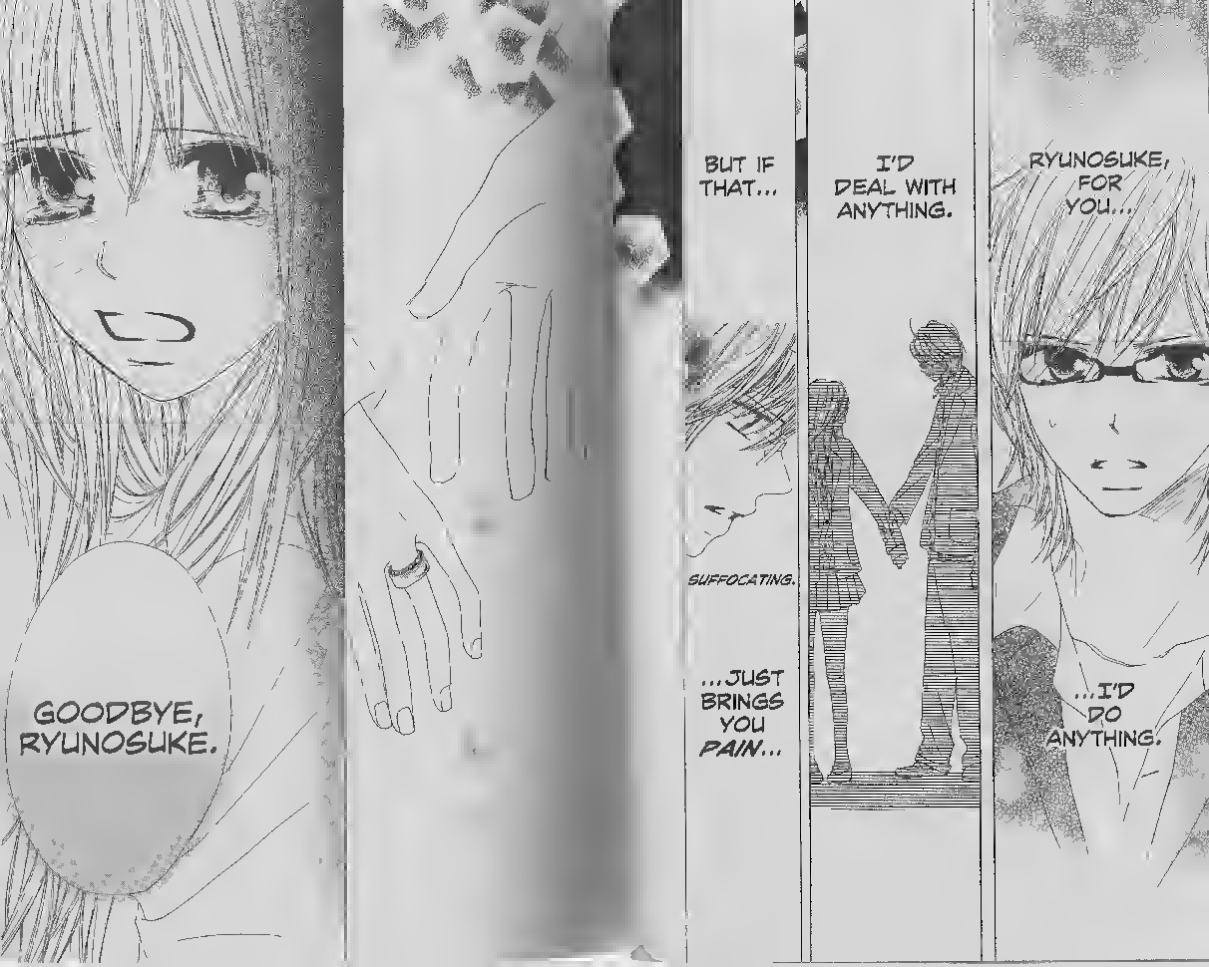
BEING WITH HER...
...IS SUFFOCATING.

WE CAN WORK ON THAT REPORT TOGETHER
AS LONG AS WE'RE TOGETHER, WE'LL BE FINE
WE CAN PIG OUT WHILE WE'RE WORKING ON THE REPORT!
RYOKO ALWAYS TRIES TO SMILE—
—EVEN WHEN THINGS ARE ROUGH
I JUST WANNA BE WITH YOU TONIGHT
SO WE'VE MADE UP RIGHT?
SHE TRIES SO HARD JUST FOR SOMEBODY LIKE ME.
NOBODY WILL EVER LIKE YOU
I THOUGHT JE-T

TAK
YEAH
CHAK
GASP
I LIKE HER, BUT IT'S TOO MUCH FOR ME.

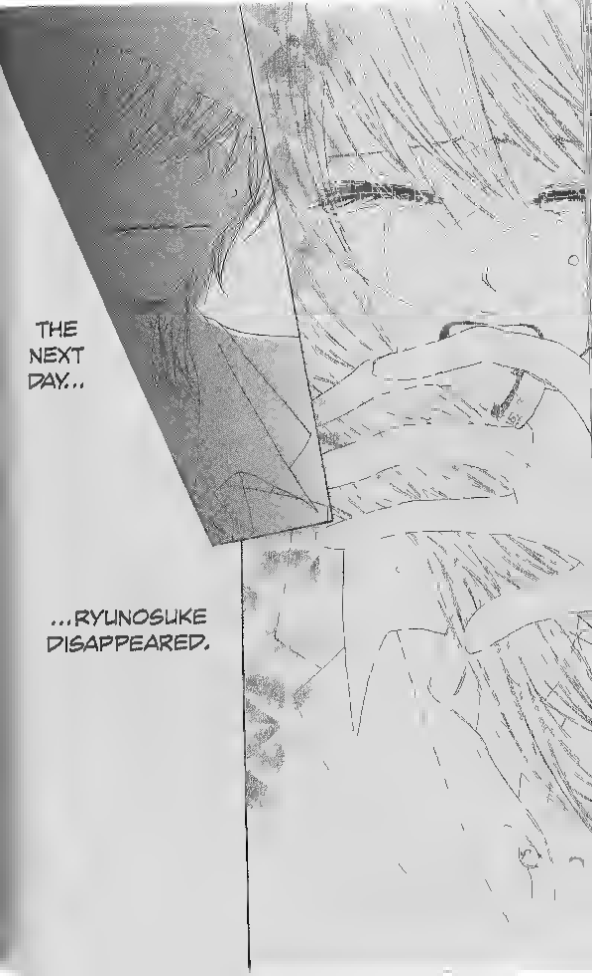
RYOKO
BEING WITH HER IS SUFFO-CATING.


OH


GOODBYE, RYUNOSUKE.
BUT IF THAT...
...JUST BRINGS YOU PAIN...
SUFFOCATING.
I'D DEAL WITH ANYTHING.
RYUNOSUKE, FOR YOU...
...I'D DO ANYTHING.

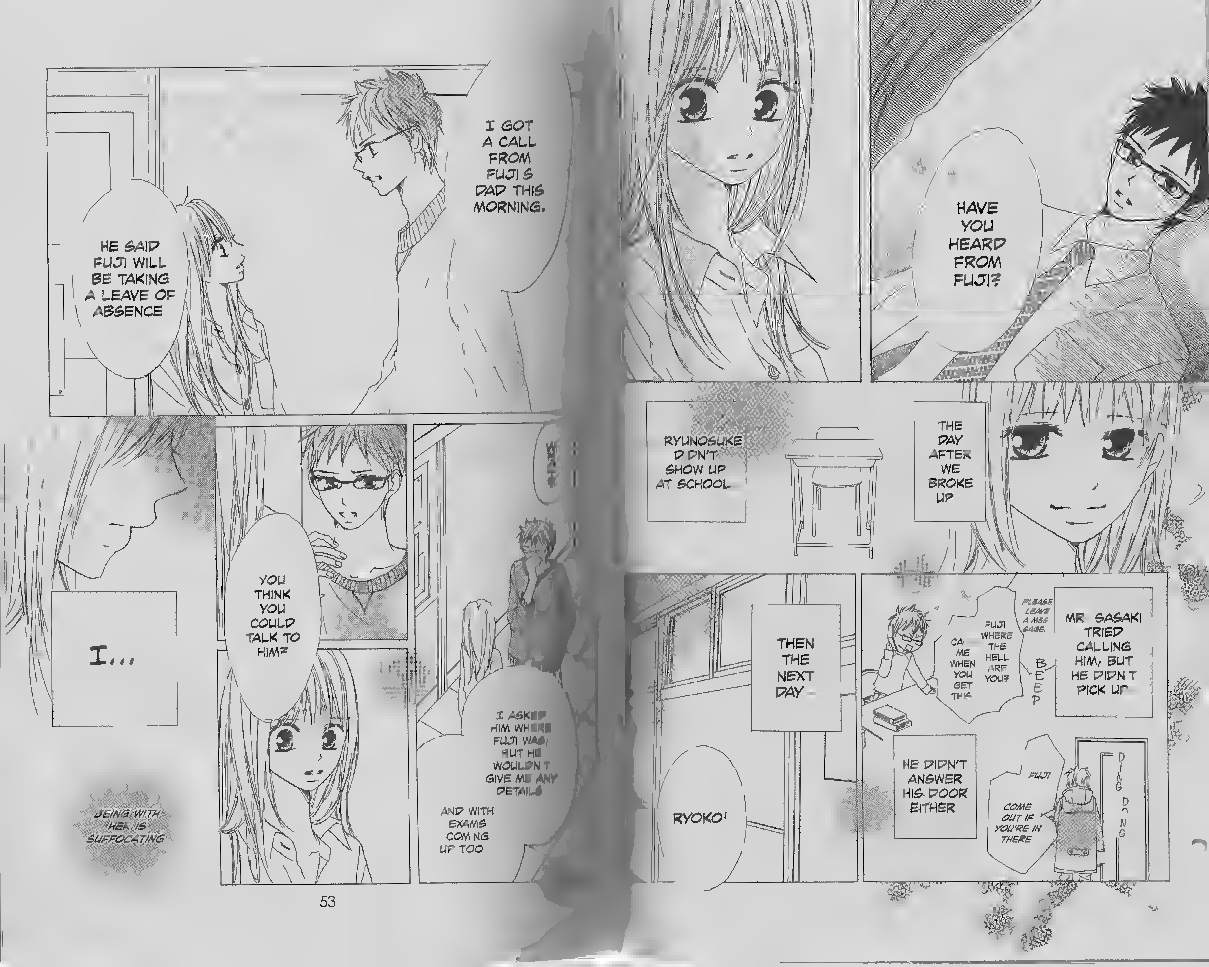
I HURT YOU
THAT'S THE LAST THING I WANTED TO DO

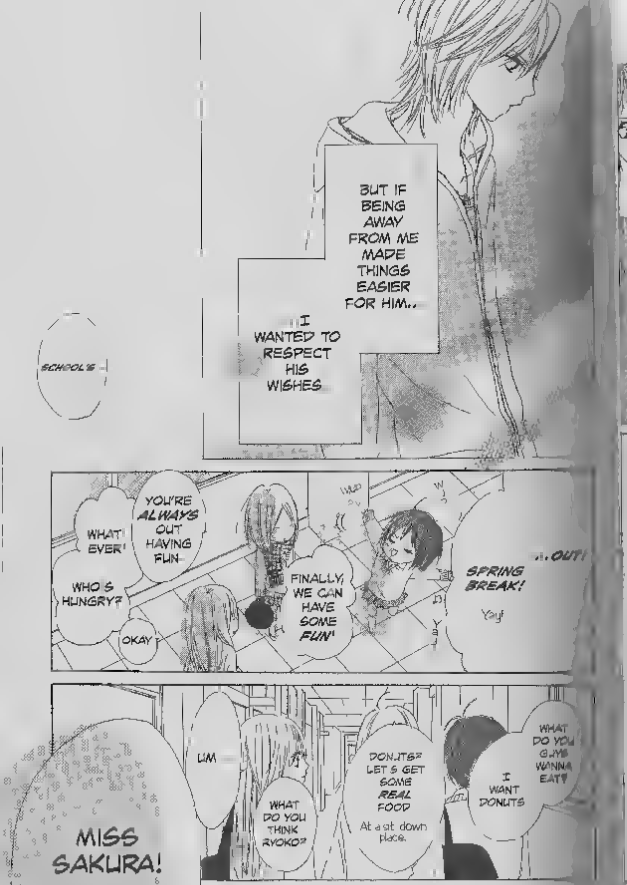
I LOVE YOU.
OKAY. OKAY.
WHAT I WANT
I'M SORRY


THE NEXT DAY...
...RYUNOSUKE DISAPPEARED.

SAKURA.
HERE.
TOK
RYOKO
YOU OKAY?
UH— IT'S NOTHING NEW.
NICK
THAT'S NOT WHAT I ASKED.
YOUR GRADES HAVE PLUM METER.
Just look at this.
FORGET ABOUT SPRING BREAK.
MOSTLY D'S
I'm gonna touch up Mom with makeup work.
HEH.
OKAY.

IKEDA.
KATO.
KOIKE.
...
...
YOUR REPORT CARDS ARE IN.
COME UP WHEN I CALL YOUR NAME.
An exact Leonel side
I'll start with the boys

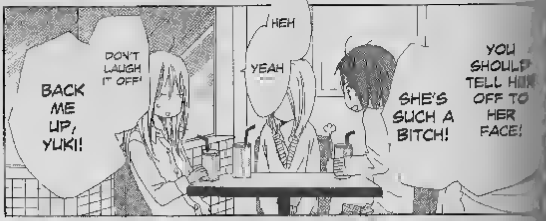

I GOT A CALL FROM FUJI'S DAD THIS MORNING.
HE SAID FUJI WILL BE TAKING A LEAVE OF ABSENCE
I...
YOU THINK YOU COULD TALK TO HIM?
I ASKED HIM WHERE FUJI WAS, BUT HE WOULDN'T GIVE ME ANY DETAILS
AND WITH EXAMS COMING UP TOO
BEING WITH HER IS SUFFOCATING
HAVE YOU HEARD FROM FUJI?
RYUNOSUKE DIDN'T SHOW UP AT SCHOOL
THE DAY AFTER WE BROKE UP
THEN THE NEXT DAY...
RYOKO!
HE DIDN'T ANSWER HIS DOOR EITHER
FUJI!
COME OUT IF YOU'RE IN THERE
DING DONG
FUJI WHERE THE HELL ARE YOU?
CALL ME WHEN YOU GET THIS
BEEP
PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE.
MR. SASAKI TRIED CALLING HIM, BUT HE DIDN'T PICK UP


I WANTED TO RESPECT HIS WISHES
BUT IF BEING AWAY FROM ME MADE THINGS EASIER FOR HIM..
SCHOOL'S
WHAT! EVER!
YOU'RE ALWAYS OUT HAVING FUN.
WHO'S HUNGRY?
OKAY
FINALLY, WE CAN HAVE SOME FUN!
WAP
SPRING BREAK!
Yay!
..OUT!
MISS SAKURA!
UM
WHAT DO YOU THINK RYOKO?
DON..IT'S? LET'S GET SOME REAL FOOD
At a sit down place.
I WANT DONUTS
WHAT DO YOU GUYS WANNA EAT?

I..
CAN'T HELP YOU.
I AM NOT HIS GIRLFRIEND ANYMORE
I WAS SO WORRIED
I WANTED TO SEE HIM SO BADLY
I DIDN'T LOOK FOR HIM
I LIKE HER, BUT IT'S TOO MUCH FOR ME.
I'M SORRY, MR. SASAKI.

YOU KNOW WHAT?
I'LL LET YOU KNOW IF I FIND ANY-THING.
THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT TO BEGIN WITH.
DON'T ACT LIKE LITTLE MISS INNOCENT.
RYOKO GETTING HER HEART BROKEN, RYUNOSUKE SKIPPING TOWN...

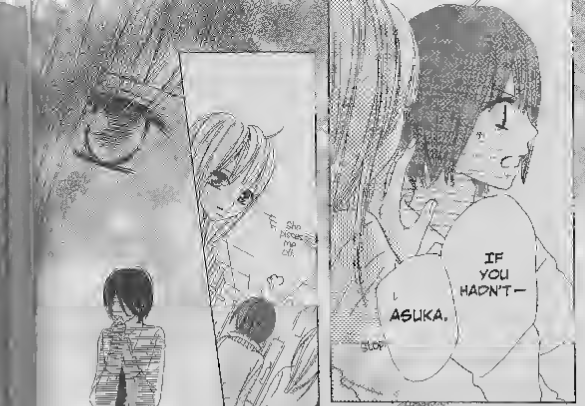
I'M SORRY
WAIT!
HAVE YOU HEARD
—FROM RYU?
I was just wondering...
I'LL LOOK FOR HIM OVER SPRING BREAK!
NO
I SEE.


BACK ME UP, YUKI!
DON'T LAUGH IT OFF!
HEH
YEAH
SHE'S SUCH A BITCH!
YOU SHOULD TELL HER OFF TO HER FACE!

MWA HA HA HA HA
I'VE NEVER SEEN YUKI LOSE IT LIKE THIS.
SHE GETS REALLY DARK WHEN SHE SNAPS.

HOW ABOUT WE TELL THE SCHOOL WHAT SHE'S DONE?
!!

THANKS, GUYS.
For having my back

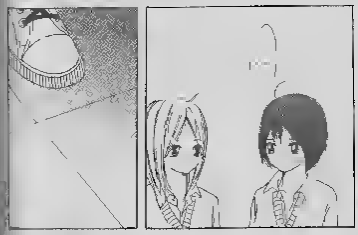

IF YOU HADN'T—
ASUKA.

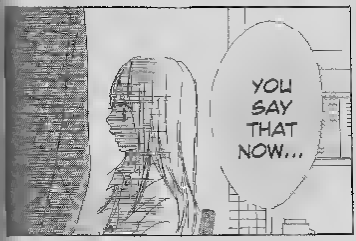
SHH SHH
LET'S JUST GO

YOU'RE TOO NICE, RYOKO.
CAFE
AUX BACCHANOLES

...BUT WHAT IF HE'S WITH ANOTHER GIRL?
KOUSUKE!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE
KO?

AS LONG AS HE'S OKAY...
...I'M COOL WITH IT.
II be fine



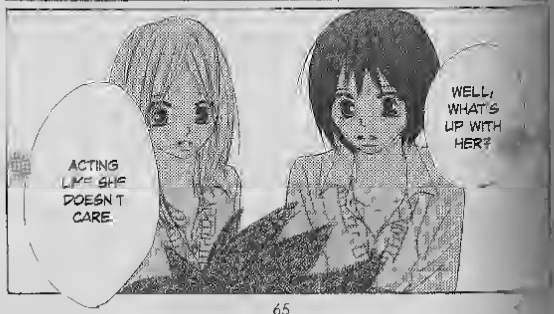

YOU SAY THAT NOW...

BUT REALLY
IT'S NOT ALL MISS IZUMI'S FAULT.
I'M SURE RYUNOSUKE DISAPPEARED BECAUSE IT'S WHAT HE WANTED TO DO.

I JUST SAID
ASUKA! WHAT'D YOU TELL HIM?
WELL, DON'T I
I'M JUST TELLING IT LIKE IT IS
EVER HEARD OF SUBTLETY?
IT'S THE TRUTH.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
SOMEBODY'S GOTTA KNOW, RIGHT?
TALK TO HIS FRIENDS AND FAMILY
WHY AREN'T YOU LOOKING FOR HIM?
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, RYOKO.
HEY.
They cleared out
EATING WITH SOME FRIENDS OVER THERE.
CHAN!
I HEARD THE BIG NEWS
C'MON.
HOW HAVE I BEEN?
BRR BRR
I've got a bad feeling about this!
SO...
HOW'VE YOU BEEN?
NO TACT!
RYUNOSUKE DUMPED YOU, RIGHT?

Come again!
RYOKO...
I'LL TEXT YOU.
TAK
SORRY, GUYS.
I'VE GOTTA GET GOING.
My parents want me home early.

WHAT?
WHAT'S UP HER ASS?
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID THAT!
WHAM
KO, YOU BIG JERK!


ACTING LIKE SHE DOESN'T CARE.
WELL, WHAT'S UP WITH HER?

KOUSUKE

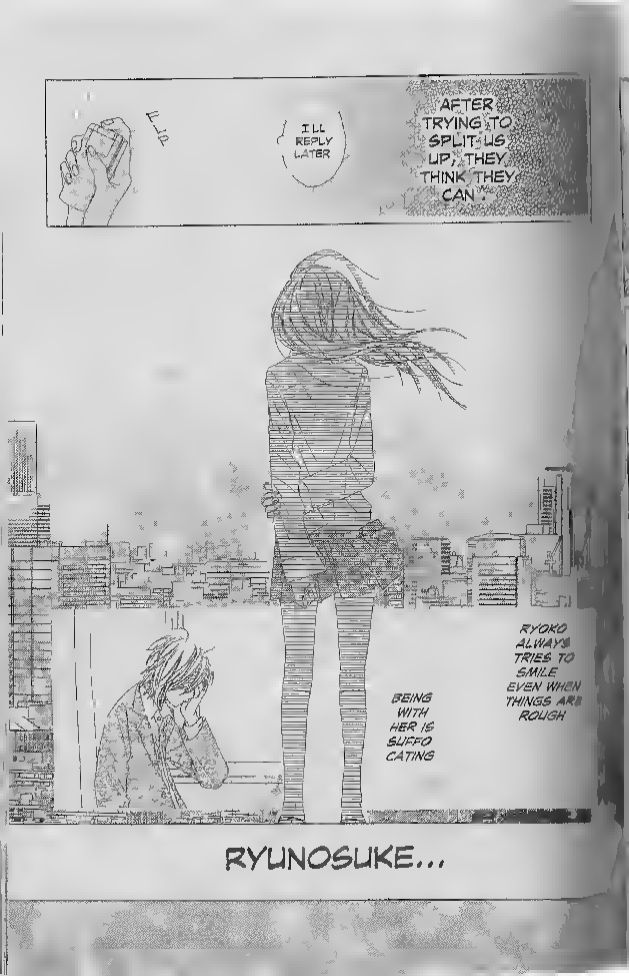
KNOCK IT OFF!
good boy, good boy
YOU'VE BECOME SUCH A NICE GUY.
I thought you were the spawn of the devil.

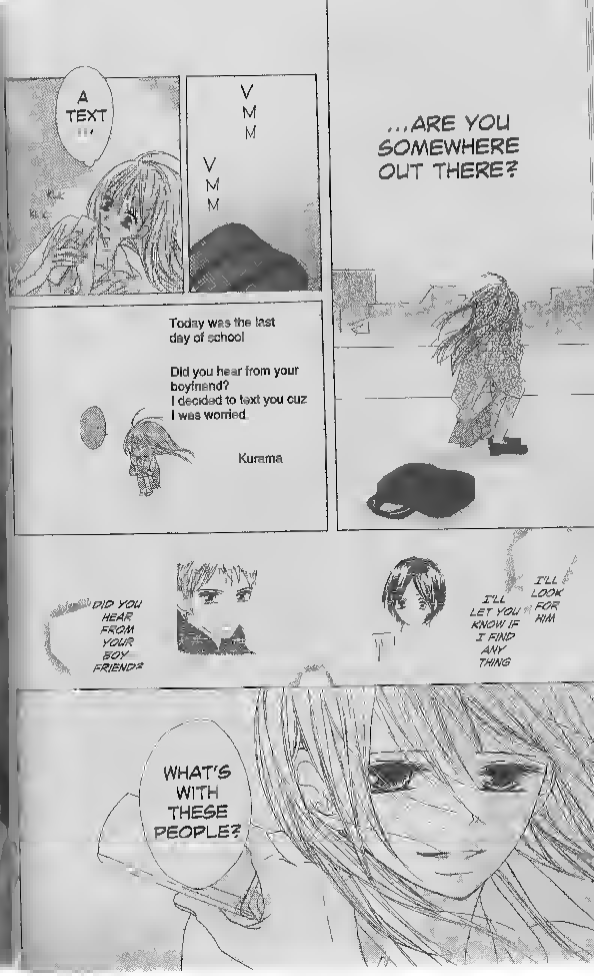
IF YOU WANNA ACK SOME OF THE HOSTS...
I CAN HELP YOU OUT

THANKS.
I WAS JUST TRYING TO...

I'M JUST GOING TO GET OVER HIM.
BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY REASON TO CHASE HIM

SUCH A BIG CITY.
RYUNOSUKE...
HYOOO
IF SHE'S REALLY TRYING TO GET OVER HIM...
...WHY'S SHE STILL WEARING THAT RING?


FLIP
I'LL REPLY LATER
AFTER TRYING TO SPLIT US UP, THEY THINK THEY CAN
BEING WITH HER IS SUFFOCATING
RYOKO ALWAYS TRIES TO SMILE EVEN WHEN THINGS ARE ROUGH
RYUNOSUKE...


A TEXT
VMM
VMM
...ARE YOU SOMEWHERE OUT THERE?
Today was the last day of school
Did you hear from your boyfriend?
I decided to text you cuz I was worried
Kurama
DID YOU HEAR FROM YOUR BOY FRIEND?
I'LL LET YOU KNOW IF I FIND ANY THING
I'LL LOOK FOR HIM
WHAT'S WITH THESE PEOPLE?

I'M SORRY.
...ARE YOU HAPPIER NOW THAT YOU'RE AWAY FROM ME?
ARE YOU SMILING NOW?
I'M SORRY.
I HAD NO IDEA.
I WAS HURTING YOU.
I'M SO SORRY.

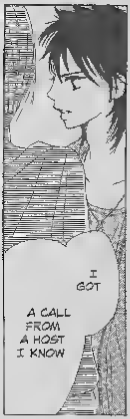
HUH?
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN TRYING REALLY HARD TO FORGET ABOUT HIM
SO ASUKA AND I HAVEN'T SAID ANYTHING
BUT--
ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO STAY BROKEN UP?
THAT'S NOT IT!
Um...
WANNA CHANG MACHIN
You don't like this one?
I'M TALKING ABOUT RYUNOSUKE

DD A BUDDA
YOU'RE MISSING HIM!
Aim for his weak spot!
WHERE IS IT?
I'm scared
I AM!!
SHOOT, RYOKO!!
WHAT CRAPPY GAME.
WE'RE DEAD
I LOVE SPRING BREAK! FREE AT LAST!
Let's go take a print club photo
WANNA PLAY, YUKI?
HEY, RYOKO.
I HAVE SO MUCH MAKEUP TO WORK
NO I'M OKAY

KO!

FWAP
WHOA
YEEK!

HE SAYS THEY JUST HIRED A GUY NAMED RYU AT A CLUB NEARBY.


I GOT A CALL FROM A HOST I KNOW

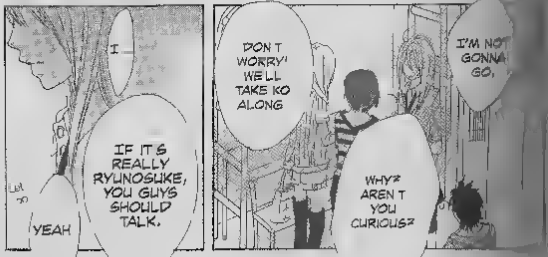
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?
I keep saying that line!
YOU TEXTED ME SAYING YOU'D BE AT THIS ARCADE
I don't expect you to come out
YEAH? SO WHAT?

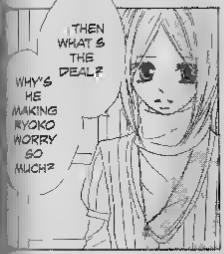
IT'S JUST TOO SAD.
YOU BOTH STILL LIKE EACH OTHER
SO WHY CAN'T YOU BE TOGETHER?

WHAT IF YOU NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN?
...SEE HIM AGAIN?
WHAT IF YOU NEVER...

I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT WANNA CHECK IT OUT.

YEAH.
LET'S DO IT, RYOKO!
WE'LL GO WITH YOU.


I...
IF IT'S REALLY RYUNOSUKE, YOU GUYS SHOULD TALK.
YEAH
DON'T WORRY! WE'LL TAKE KO ALONG
I'M NOT GONNA GO.
WHY? AREN'T YOU CURIOUS?


THEN WHAT'S THE DEAL?
WHY'S HE MAKING RYOKO WORRY SO MUCH?

IF
THAT'S RYUNO-SUKE

HERE'S DIRECTIONS TO THE CLUB.

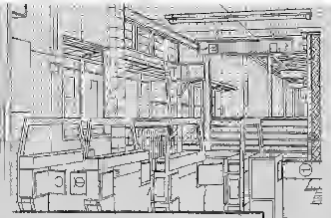
HUH?

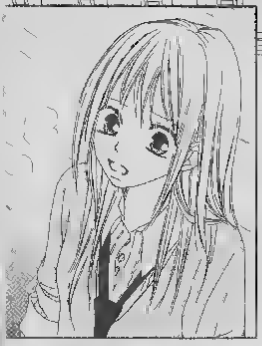
WHAT?
WAIT A SEC
HE DIDN'T HAVE TOO MUCH INFO...
...BUT HE SAYS THE GUY'S YOUNG AND MAKING NAME FOR HIMSELF.

JUST LET IT GO, OKAY?
COME ON.
YOUR HAND!
IF YOU WANT PEOPLE TO THINK YOU'RE OVER HIM...
...QUIT WEARING THAT RING.

I SAID IT'S ALL RIGHT!
...I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY TO HIM.
LIKE I SAID BEFORE
WHAT RYUNOSUKE'S DOING HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME

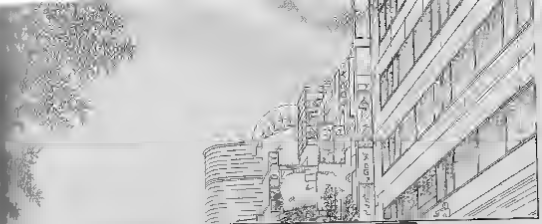
I'M SURE...
YOU AND RYUNOSUKE HAVE YOUR REASONS.
I WON'T FORCE YOU TO DO ANYTHING.
I JUST HOPE YOU DON'T REGRET IT.
RYOKO...
...I'M GOING TOO.
HEH HEH HEH
CHIK
OKAY, FORGET IT.
I'LL GO ALONE
TAK
KO!
SORRY, RYOKO.
I'M GOING WITH HIM
ISN'T JUST WANTING TO SEE HIM...
...ENOUGH OF A REASON TO GO?





JUST...

...WANTING TO SEE HIM...



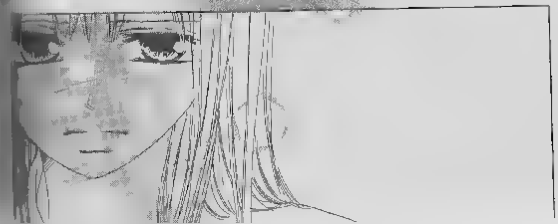
ISN'T JUST WANTING TO SEE HIM ENOUGH OF A REASON TO GO?

YOU BOTH STILL LIKE EACH OTHER, SO WHY CAN'T YOU BE TOGETHER?

, SEE HIM AGAIN?

WHAT IF YOU NEVER

I JUST HOPE YOU DON'T REGRET IT.



IS THIS THE PLACE?

WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER!
Yeah

I've never been to this club before
This'll be my second time

OKAY
Yeah
I'm glad you're here with me

C'MON, LET'S GO,
WHATEVR YOU GUYS...
THE TRAIN'S HERE

JUST COME WITH US, RYOKO

WE'RE ALL GOING THE SAME WAY, RIGHT?

GASP!

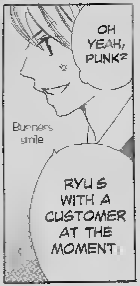
WE WANNA REQUEST RYU.
WAAH
WAAH
HUH
I'M TOO SCARED TO LOOK UP
JUST SHOW US TO AN OPEN TABLE.
FO four
DON'T WORRY ABOUT MONEY
H...
HEY!

I'M SORRY.
CAN I SEE SOME I.D.?

WELCOME!
WE'RE HERE TO SEE RYU.
IS HE HERE?
HIS MAJESTY

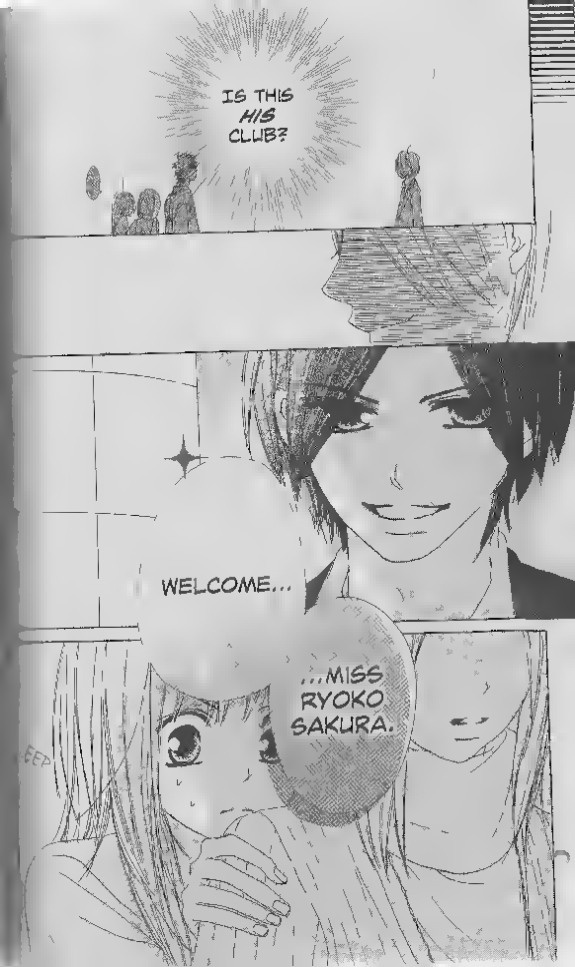
RYUNO-SUKE...
...COULD BE HERE.

THAT SO?
THEN WE'LL WAIT INSIDE
I'M HOTTER THAN HIM

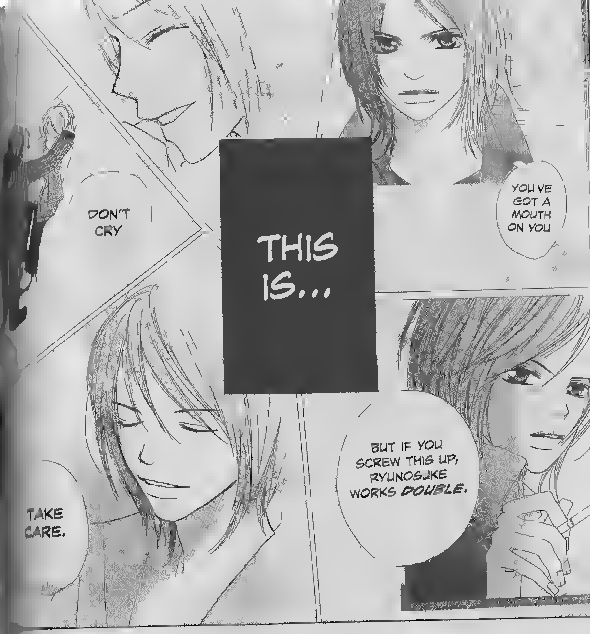

OH YEAH, PUNK?
Burners smile
RYU S WITH A CUSTOMER AT THE MOMENT

KREEEK
GEEZ, I'M GETTING NERVOUS.
HE WALKED RIGHT IN LIKE IT WAS HIS HOUSE
WHOA
BDMP BDMP

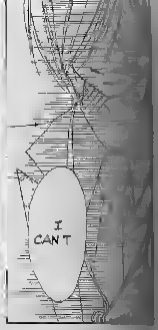
THE PRESIDENT!
He cut his hair!!
EEK!
NO WAY!
HAS OUR RYU DONE SOME-THING?
IT CAN'T BE...
THEN CAN YOU SEND RYU OUT?
WE JUST WANNA TALK TO HIM.
RYU?
WAIT ...
WE DON'T ...
..ALLOW UNDER-AGE GUESTS INTO THE CLUB.
THAT VOICE ...
HUH?

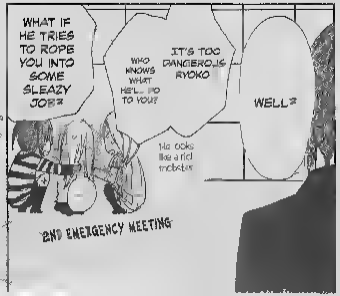

IS THIS HIS CLUB?
WELCOME...
...MISS RYOKO SAKURA.
EEP

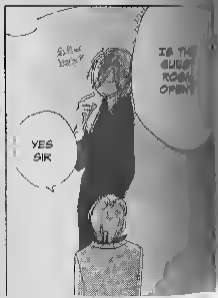
THIS IS HIS PLACE?
WELCOME ...
...MISS RYOKO SAKURA.

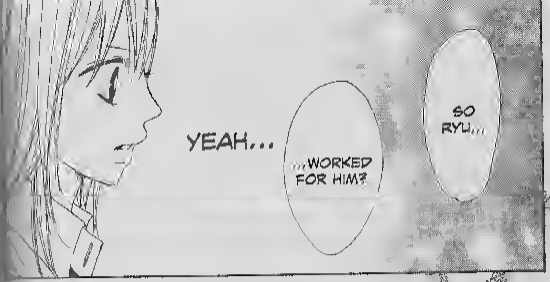

DON'T CRY
THIS IS...
YOU'VE GOT A MOUTH ON YOU
TAKE CARE.
BUT IF YOU SCREW THIS UP, RYUNOSUKE WORKS DOUBLE.

HUH?
ABOUT TIME?
ABOUT TIME YOU SHOWED UP.
GRP
HEY, RYOKO.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
?!
UH... UM...
HOW DOES HE KNOW YOUR NAME?
RYOKO DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE
WHAT?
I'M NOT!!
You idiot!!
Why don't you ask it along?
...A REGULAR HERE!
What a player
JUST KIDDING.
YOU BE QUIET!
Don't play along w/ them
MISS SAKURA IS A VALUED CUSTOMER OF OURS.
WELL...
HE RAN THE CLUB WHERE RYUNOSUKE USED TO WORK.
WHAT?
PSST PSST
WHO IS THIS GUY?
NO WAY
HE DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A TYPICAL HOST
1ST EMERGENCY MEETING



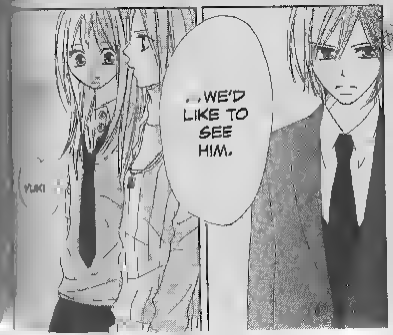

WHAT IF HE TRIES TO ROPE YOU INTO SOME SLEAZY JOB?
WHO KNOWS WHAT HE'LL DO TO YOU?
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS RYOKO
WELL?
He looks like a rich mobster
2ND EMERGENCY MEETING





THAT'S RIGHT.

IF RYUNOSUKE WANTED TO GO BACK TO HOSTING, THIS IS THE GUY HE'D SEE.



UM...

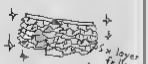
BUT THANKS.
LOOK, I'LL BE FINE
I KNOW HIS EVIL WAYS
EVIL WAYS?
I'LL HEAR WHAT HE HAS TO SAY AND REPORT BACK TO YOU GUYS
DON'T WORRY.
I'LL JUST TALK TO HIM.
YO, OLD MAN.
WE'LL RUSH THE DOOR!!
SCREAM IF HE TRIES ANY-THING!!
OKAY
YOU'D BETTER WATCH YOURSELF.
WE'LL BE RIGHT HERE.
KOUSUKE...
GUEST ROOM

WHY REOPEN OLD WOUNDS?
YOU WANNA GET BACK TOGETHER WITH HIM?
YOU GUYS BROKE UP, RIGHT?
WHY DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?
WHAT?
SHINOBU GAVE ME THE LOWDOWN.
I KNOW FUJI'S BEEN SKIPPING SCHOOL.
NO THANKS.
SLAM
TAKE A SEAT ANY-WHERE.
CAN I GET YOU SOME-THING TO DRINK?
WELL?
TELL ME.
IS RYUNOSUKE HERE?

I DON'T...
...KNOW WHAT I WANT.
I THINK IT WAS THE RIGHT THING TO DO AT THE TIME.
WE WERE BOTH CONFUSED THAT DAY.
WE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO BREAK UP.
BUT...
SINCE THEN, ALL I CAN THINK ABOUT—
IS WHERE RYUNOSUKE COULD BE... AND WHO HE MIGHT BE WITH.
I WANT TO KNOW...
...WHAT RYUNOSUKE'S DOING WITH HIS LIFE NOW.
CLICK
HEY.
IT'S ME.

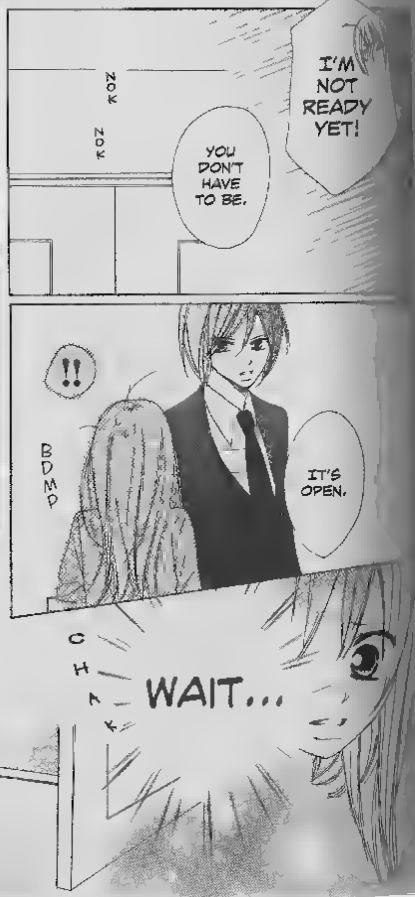
I also like the animal documentaries on J COM I watch that stuff sometimes too. Boy I hope everyone understands what I'm talking about ♥

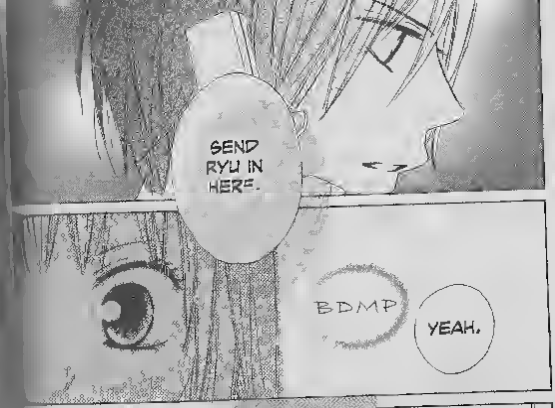
Another thing I'm into lately is panties! I collect cute panties

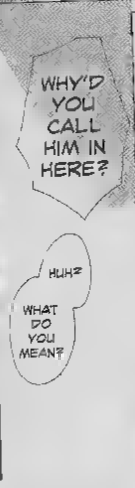


These are six-layer frill panties from my favorite designer! They come in a bunch of different patterns: bananas, watermelons, cherries, leopard print, it's just too cute ♥

And I can't stop buying scrunchies ♥



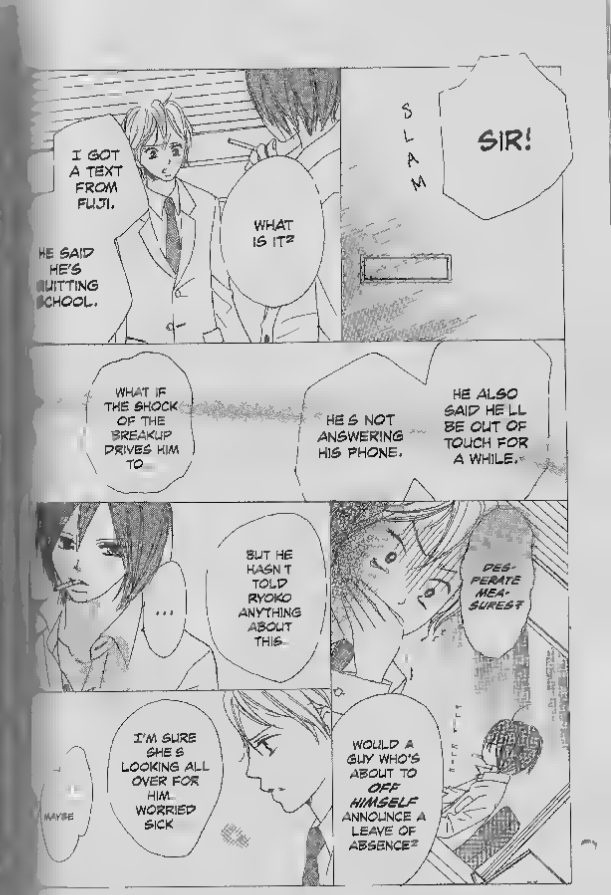




WAAH
Nice meetin' you.
SLAM
I WANNA BE A HOST BOTH MEN AN WOMEN WILL LOVE
OK IY, THAT'S ENOUGH.
Clear out
HOWDY! ♪
HUH?
WHOA
AW, SURE! ♡
INTRODUCE YOURSELF.
I'M RYU, THE NEWEST HOST HERE.
WHO'S THAT?
I'M FROM KYUSHU AN I'M 20 YEARS OLD
MY DREAM IS TO OPEN A CLUB OF MY OWN BACK HOME.
President Ministry hero
RYU.
THAT WAS ?
BEATS ME.
WHERE'S KYUNOSUKE?
CRASH
WHAT?
YOU'RE DEAD!
Don't stand there playing cool!
MISTAKEN IDENTITY

I COULDN'T HELP THINKING... YOU'RE STILL THE SAME RYOKO SAKURA.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
WHAT?
LIKE I SAID, SHINOBU TOLD ME ABOUT FUJI.
I THOUGHT YOU'D COME HERE SOONER.
HEH
I FEEL LIKE AN IDIOT FOR TAKING YOU SERIOUSLY...
AND HE DIDN'T!
SNIF
I never said it was Fuji.
That's a valuable vase
I'm not careless!
AFTER ALL THAT BUILDUP, WHAT WAS I SUPPOSED TO THINK?
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
SORRY
IT'S JUST THAT
...I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU ANGRY IN A WHILE.

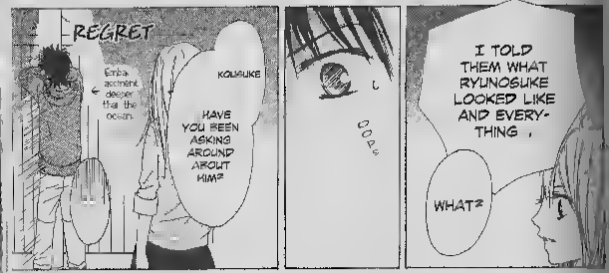
You know what he's like!
I BET SHE WILL.
YEAH MAYBE
Whatever
MAYBE SHE'LL EVEN COME HERE!
HE THOUGHT YOU'D MAKE A BEELINE FOR US.
BUT YOU NEVER SHOWED UP.
MY FRIENDS JUST HEARD A RUMOR THAT A GUY NAMED RYU WAS HERE.
THEY DRAGGED ME OVER
SO?
WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO NOW?
You gonna keep looking at him?
I WAS BEGINNING TO WONDER WHAT YOU WERE DOING.

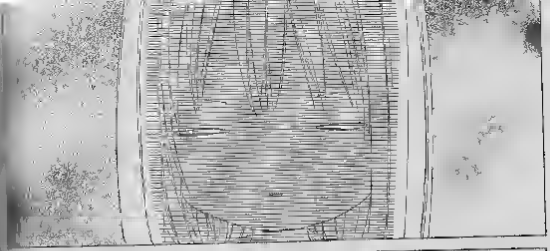

I GOT A TEXT FROM FUJI.
HE SAID HE'S QUITTING SCHOOL.
WHAT IS IT?
SLAM
SIR!
WHAT IF THE SHOCK OF THE BREAKUP DRIVES HIM TO...
HE'S NOT ANSWERING HIS PHONE.
HE ALSO SAID HE'LL BE OUT OF TOUCH FOR A WHILE.
...
BUT HE HASN'T TOLD RYOKO ANYTHING ABOUT THIS...
DES-PERATE MEA-SURES?
MAYBE
I'M SURE SHE'S LOOKING ALL OVER FOR HIM. WORRIED SICK
WOULD A GUY WHO'S ABOUT TO OFF HIMSELF ANNOUNCE A LEAVE OF ABSENCE?

...I'M NOT SURE I SHOULD BE CHASING HIM AROUND LIKE THIS.
I DO WANT TO KNOW WHAT RYUNOSUKE'S UP TO
BUT...
MAYBE HE WANTS HIS PRIVACY.
...
I DON'T KNOW.
I'VE BEEN SUCH A WIMP LATELY.
MAYBE YOU JUST THINK THIS IS TOO IMPORTANT TO RUSH INTO.
MAYBE YOU'RE NOT BEING A WIMP.
...YEAH.
These guys don't know what they're missing.
This melon is so sweet!
Man tasty!

They said it was a girl.
THOSE JERKS GAVE ME BOGUS INTEL!!
WELL... THAT WAS HIS NAME.
YOU SEE THAT GUY?
WHAT'S WRONG, KOZ
YEAH Ha ha...
WELL, AT LEAST HE'S NOT HOSTING AGAIN.

They weren't totally wrong.
He did stand out in his own way. Uh...
Those guys had to be blind!!
DID HE LOOK LIKE A TOP-RATED HOST?


REGRET
Embarrassment deeper than the ocean
KOUSUKE
HAVE YOU BEEN ASKING AROUND ABOUT HIM?
COOL
I TOLD THEM WHAT RYUNOSUKE LOOKED LIKE AND EVERYTHING.
WHAT?



WELCOME BACK!
GASP!
RYOKO!

SO IT WASN'T HIM, HUH?

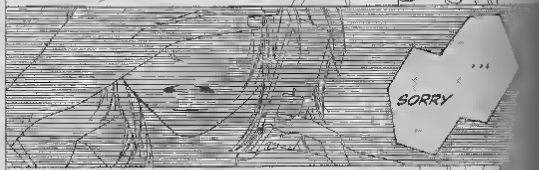
WE WERE SO WORRIED ABOUT...
YOU OKAY?
Yuki... you've got sauce on your face.
YOU WERE, HUH?

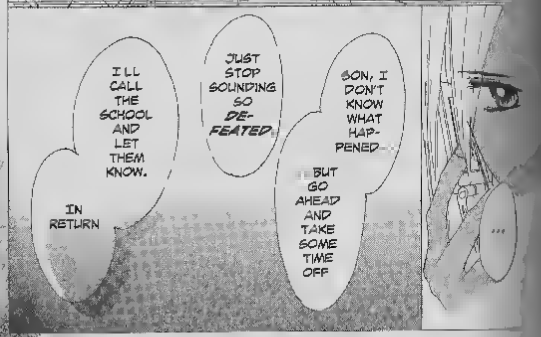
...SURE.
WHERE DO YOU THINK?
PROBABLY MAKING THE ROUNDS OF HIS OLD GIRLFRIENDS
KOUSUKE!
Be a good boy
OKAY, SO WE GOT THE WRONG GUY THIS TIME.
SO WHERE'S RYUNOSUKE?
LET'S PROMISE TO LOOK FOR HIM AGAIN IF WE FIND A LEAD.
YEAH LET'S DO THAT
RIGHT, RYOKO?
SO WHAT?
I JUST WANTED TO FIND OUT FOR MYSELF
?!
I WANTED TO SEE YOUR FACE.
HUH?
OW!
WHAT THE HELL?
THANKS FOR EVERYTHING TONIGHT

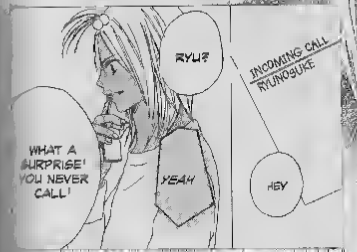
HMPH.
YEAH...
THAT WAS A SHOOTING STAR!
DID YOU SEE IT?
II
BEEP
SIGH
TRY THAT AGAIN AND I'LL K.I.L YOU!
ack
ack
TAP
kotsu
YOU LOOKED JUST LIKE YOU DID WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE
DON'T KISS ME, DUDE!!!

...YEAH.
HEY, RYU.
AHHHH
Shooting star.

...CAN'T DO IT ANY-MORE.
I JUST
TELL ME WHY.

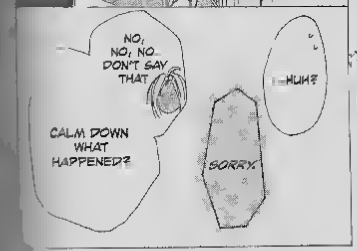

SORRY
...


I'LL CALL THE SCHOOL AND LET THEM KNOW.
IN RETURN
JUST STOP SOUNDING SO DE-FEATED.
SON, I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAP-PENED...
BUT GO AHEAD AND TAKE SOME TIME OFF
...


RYU?
INCOMING CALL RYUNOSUKE
WHAT A SURPRISE! YOU NEVER CALL!
YEAH
HEY

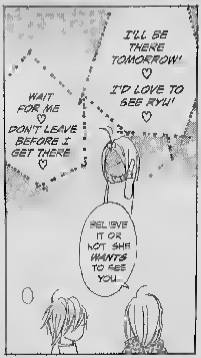
I, UH
WHAT'S UP?

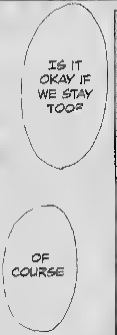
I'M THINKING ABOUT QUITTING SCHOOL.

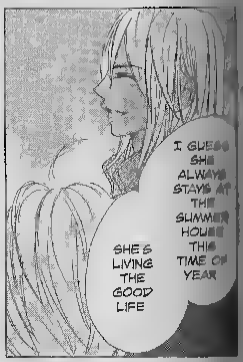

NO, NO, NO... DON'T SAY THAT
HUH?
CALM DOWN WHAT HAPPENED?
SORRY.

BRRRR

YEAH.
AUNT KOZUE?
OH YEAH.
MY BIG SISTER'S COMING IN TOMORROW.


I'LL BE THERE TOMORROW! ♡
I'D LOVE TO SEE RYU! ♡
WAIT FOR ME ♡ DON'T LEAVE BEFORE I GET THERE ♡
REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT SHE WANTS TO SEE YOU.


IS IT OKAY IF WE STAY TOO?
OF COURSE

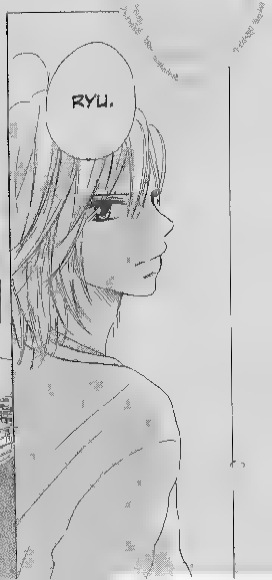

I GUESS SHE ALWAYS STAYS AT THE SUMMER HOUSE THIS TIME OF YEAR
SHE'S LIVING THE GOOD LIFE

SORRY.

WHEN SHE GETS HERE LET'S MAKE HER COOK FOR US.
I'M SICK OF EATING OUT.

YOU HAVE TO STAY WITH ME.
GOT THAT?

LET'S HEAD BACK.


RYU.

YEAH.

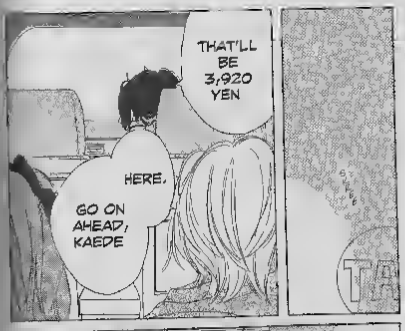
REALLY, I'M GLAD I GET TO SPEND TIME WITH YOU.
THAT'S NEVER A WASTE OF TIME.
I'LL TELL YOU WHEN I HAVE TO WORK.
I KNOW I'M BEING A DICK.
I HAVEN'T EVEN TOLD YOU WHY I DROPPED OUT.
AND I KNOW YOU GOTTA WORK.
DON'T WORRY 'BOUT THAT STUFF.
KIDS SHOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT THEIR PARENTS.
JUST TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.
DUMMY.
BUT DON'T TELL MA-CHAN.
GIMME A BREAK!
* M-chan = Mom.

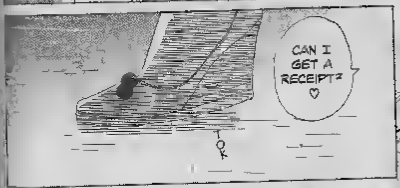
AREN'T YOU GLAD YOU CAME, KAEDE? ♪

YOU LIED, MOM!

ALL I SAW WERE AN OLD BATHHOUSE AND AN ARCADE!
WE PASSED IT ON THE WAY HERE.
CLACK

YOU SAID WE WERE GOING TO AN AWESOME NEW RESORT WITH A SPA THAT GIVES YOU PERFECT SKIN GUARANTEED!
WHERE'S MY SPA?
HUH? ABOUT WHAT?

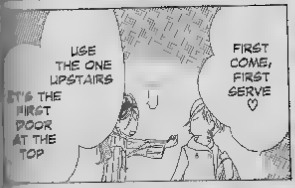

THAT'LL BE 3,920 YEN
HERE.
GO ON AHEAD, KAEDE
TA

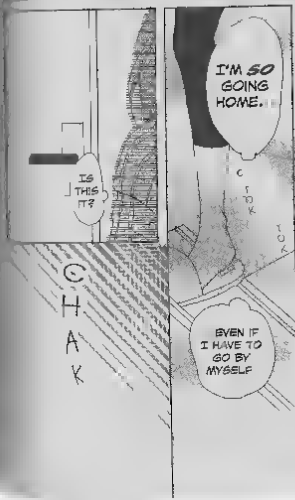

CAN I GET A RECEIPT? ♡

ALL RIGHT WE MADE IT! ♡
3000M
THE AIR'S SO CLEAN OUT HERE.

...
UM...

I've been holding it too!
NO! ME FIRST !!

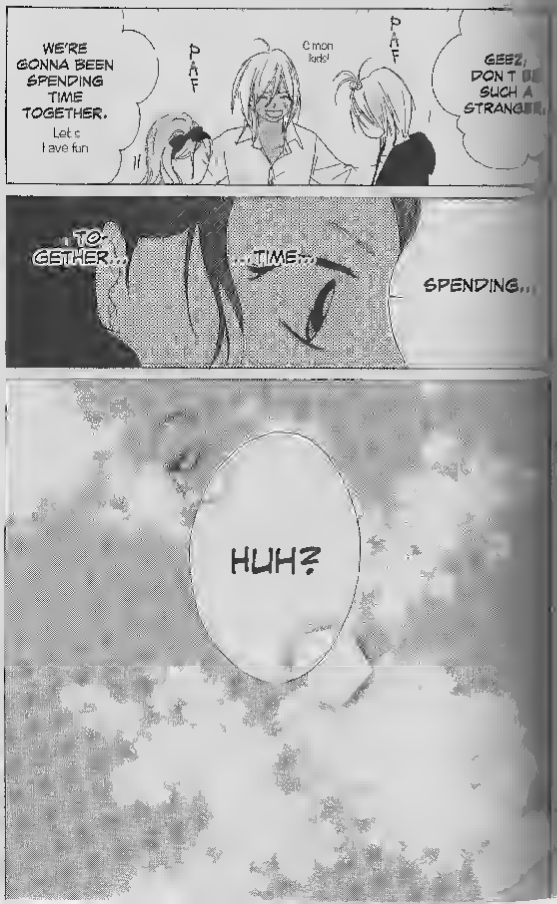

USE THE ONE UPSTAIRS IT'S THE FIRST DOOR AT THE TOP
FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE ♡


IS THIS IT?
CHAK
I'M SO GOING HOME.
EVEN IF I HAVE TO GO BY MYSELF

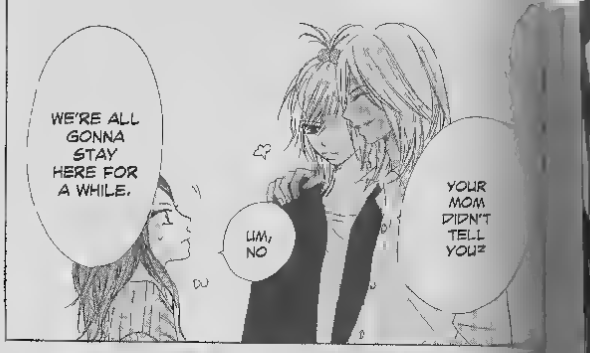
ALL MY FRIENDS HAVE BOYFRIENDS NOW. I'M FALLING BEHIND.
I AGREED TO COME OUT HERE SO I COULD GET BEAUTY TREATMENTS.
NOW I'M STUCK IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE. THERE AREN'T EVEN ANY OTHER HOUSES.
I HAVE TO GO TO THE BATHROOM!

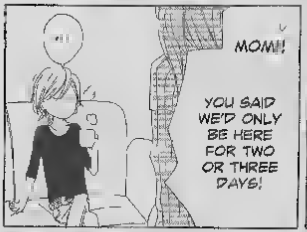
YOU GET USED TO IT.
Ahh. She's gotten a lot better.
Ohh! I finish this drink.
...UNCLE
...HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT KILLING MOM?
You weren't my mom I'd kick you.
WHAT?
BUT YOU GUYS'LL BE IN THE SAME GRADE.
HE'S PROBABLY GONNA GET HELD BACK
WHAT ARE YOU, A FRESHMAN NOW? You're so cute.
BUT BOY, KAEDE, YOU'VE REALLY GROWN UP.
YEAH, I'LL BE A SOPHOMORE NEXT SEMESTER.
THEN YOU'RE A YEAR YOUNGER THAN RYU
AHHH
UNSHIAG
REALLY

MOOOOM!!
NO!!
IT WASN'T?
And that wasn't the bathroom, either!
ARRGH
SORRY ♡
DIDN'T I TELL YOU THEY'D BE HERE?
WAIT.


WE'RE GONNA BEEN SPENDING TIME TOGETHER.
Let c have fun
P-PF
C'mon lady!
P-PF
GEEZ, DON'T BE SUCH A STRANGER.
...TO-GETHER...
...TIME...
SPENDING...
HUH?

HEY, RYU.
COME SAY HI TO KAEDE.
I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM N ABOUT FIVE YEARS. HE SEEMED LIKE A NORMAL KID THEN...
HELD BACK? THAT DOESN'T HAPPEN MUCH IN HIGH SCHOOL...
WHAT'S UP WITH RYU?
UM... SURE.
DARK AND DISTURBED...
THANKS FOR LETTING US STAY HERE
RYU!
WHAT'S WITH THIS PONYTAIL?

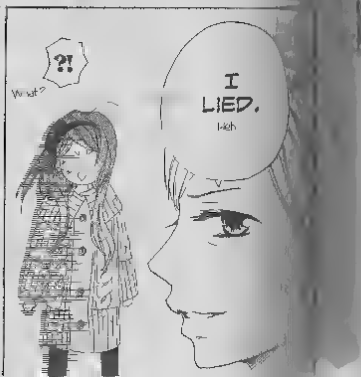

WE'RE ALL GONNA STAY HERE FOR A WHILE.
UM, NO
YOUR MOM DIDN'T TELL YOU?


MOM!!
YOU SAID WE'D ONLY BE HERE FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS!

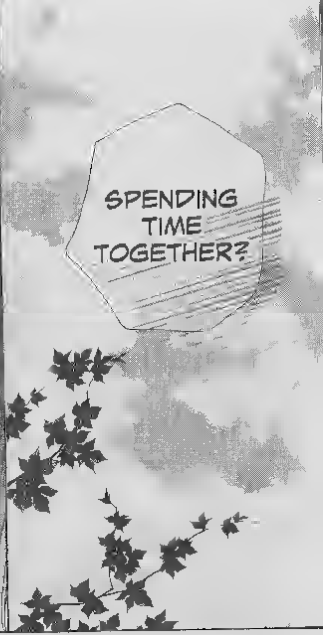
HUH?
WE HEARD YOU'RE SPENDING YOUR ENTIRE SPRING BREAK HERE.
My whole spring break?

YOU RELAX ALL YEAR LONG!!
I NEED TO RELAX ONCE IN A WHILE TOO—

YOU DO?
I'VE GOT PLANS OF MY OWN

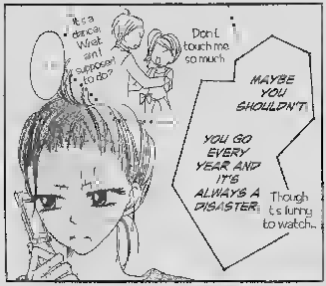

?!
What?
I LIED.
Heh

WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?


SPENDING TIME TOGETHER?

I'M SORRY, SHE'S SUCH A CHILD.
...
YOU'RE THE IMMATURE ONE.
SIGH
...NO.
THEN WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
THIS...
...SUCKS.

I CAN'T GO ANYWHERE COOL 'CAUSE MY ALLOWANCE SUCKS!!
Did you realize?
YOU HAD PLANS?
Pfft
YOU ONLY LEAVE THE HOUSE TO VISIT THE CONVENIENCE STORE OR YOUR BEST FRIEND'S PLACE
ALL YOU DO IS PLAY GAMES ONLINE ALL DAY
You're so dead!
POW
POW
UM, OKAY.
WHAT THE HELL...?
PAT
RYUNOSUKE.
PLEASE BE KIND TO MY DAUGHTER. SHE CAN'T EVEN GET A BOYFRIEND AT HER AGE.
IS SOMETHING GETTING ON YOUR NERVES?
...
Pat
WHAT'S THE MATTER? THIS IS A NICE PLACE TO SPEND SOME TIME.
I'M OUTTA HERE!!!
YOU HAVE TRAIN FARE?

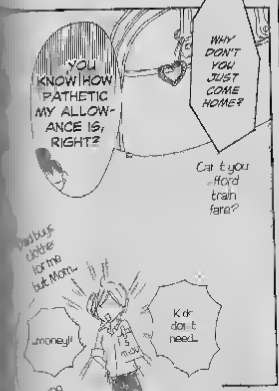

It's a dance! Wait, am I supposed to do?
Don't touch me so much
MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'T
YOU GO EVERY YEAR AND IT'S ALWAYS A DISASTER.
Though it's funny to watch...

Pop
OF COURSE!!
EVERY BODY ELSE IS!
SO ARE YOU GOING, KAEDE?

It's kind of old-fashioned.
YOU'RE SO NOT GOOD WITH BOYS.
ARE YOU A PRUDE OR JUST WAY TOO PICKY?

HEY
PIP
KAEDE?
JUST WATCH ME!

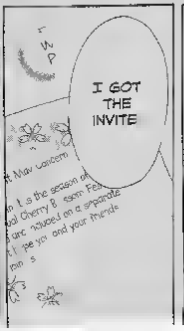
I BET YOU'LL BE SINGLE FOR LIFE.
Kwa ha ha!
NO!
I'LL DO BETTER THIS YEAR!!
DON'T YOU SAY THAT EVERY YEAR?
SHUT UP!!

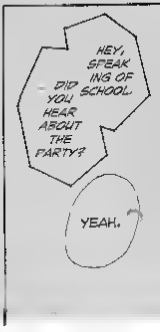

YOU KNOW HOW PATHETIC MY ALLOWANCE IS, RIGHT?
WHY DON'T YOU JUST COME HOME?
Can't you afford train fare?
But bus (other is for me but Mom...
...money!!
Kids don't need...
I'm using your phone bill aren't I?

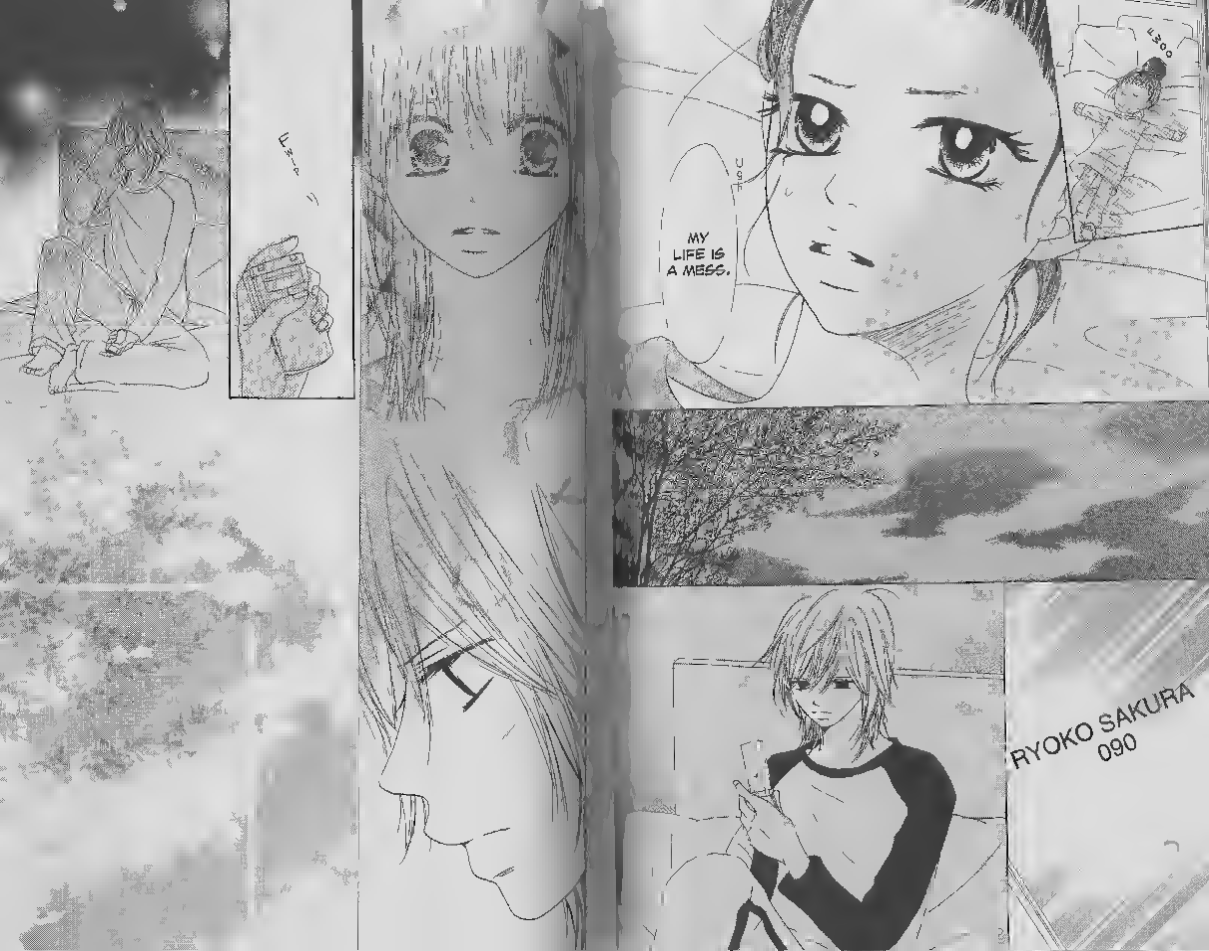
HA HA HA!
IT'S NOT FUNNY!!
YEAH I CAN TELL... THAT SUCKS
I CAN'T EVEN GET DECENT RECEPTION OUT HERE!
Reception status

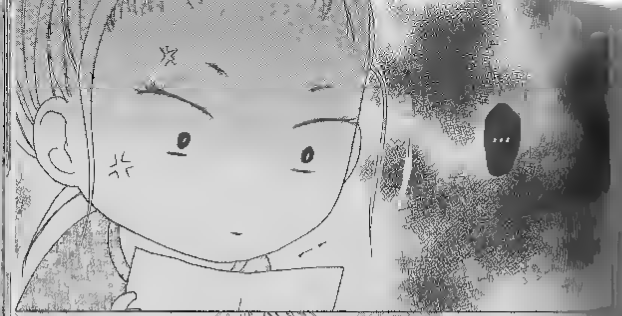
I KNOW OUR SCHOOL'S A HIGH-CLASS PRIVATE ACADEMY, AND YOU'RE LIKE THE POOREST KID THERE.

SIGH
THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN, HUH?

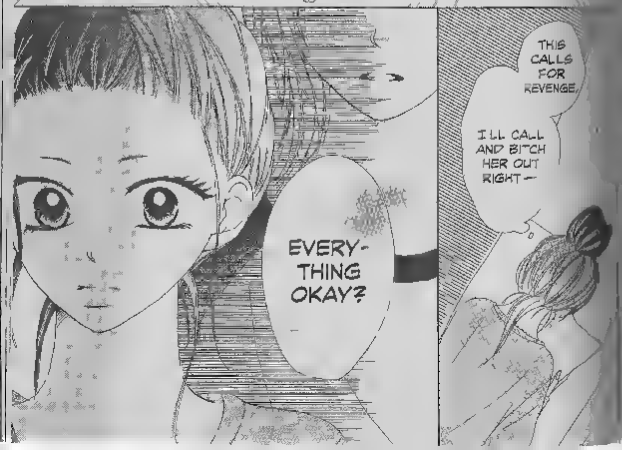

I GOT THE INVITE


HEY, SPEAKING OF... DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE PARTY?
YEAH.


MY LIFE IS A MESS.

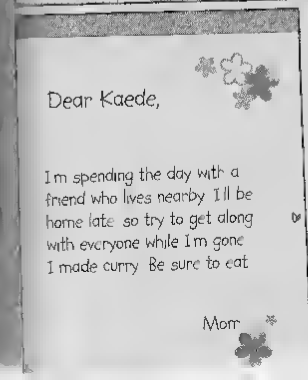

...

SHE DRAGS ME HERE, THEN ABANDONS ME?
So long, sucker!
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!!!


EVERY-THING OKAY?
THIS CALLS FOR REVENGE.
I'LL CALL AND BITCH HER OUT RIGHT—

MOM?
TAP TAP
HELLO?
I MUST'VE FALLEN ASLEEP

SHING
MOM ...


Dear Kaede,
I'm spending the day with a friend who lives nearby. I'll be home late, so try to get along with everyone while I'm gone. I made curry. Be sure to eat
Mom

WHERE'D EVERY-BODY GO?
Huh?

KYAAAA!!
HUH?
GEEZ!
DON'T SNEAK UP ON ME LIKE THAT!!
BDMP
ERK...
HE STARTLED ME.
WHERE'S YOUR DAD?
You didn't have to freak out.
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I WAS JUST WONDERING WHY YOU WERE STANDING THERE LIKE A STATUE
...
HUH?
HE'S GOT A JOB IN TOKYO TODAY, SAID HE'LL BE BACK TOMORROW.
BUT...
MY MOM'S OUT FOR THE DAY TOO!
OH YEAH?
SO WHAT?
I KNOW HE'S MY COUSIN
BUT BEING ALONE WITH A BOY I BARELY KNOW...
WE'LL BE FINE WE'RE NOT LITTLE KIDS, Y'KNOW
YEAH, BUT
WHAT NOW?

FAIR ENOUGH
SWING
I'D BE PISSED TOO.
HUH?
WHEN DAD GETS BACK TOMORROW I'LL TELL HIM IT'S TIME TO LEAVE.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO BROUGHT IT UP. I'D SAY YOU NEED TO CHILL OUT.
I'M JUST PISSED OFF-
- THAT I HAVE TO SPEND MY SPRING BREAK IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE WITH PEOPLE I BARELY KNOW
WE'RE COUSINS, REMEMBER? I'M NOT INTO THAT.
YOU NEED TO CHILL OUT.
HUH?
O. OF COURSE NOT.
NOT AFRAID OF ME, ARE YA?
YIPE
FORGET IT. NOTHING'S GONNA HAPPEN.
...
I'M FINE! YOU JUST SCARED ME!
CHILL OUT?

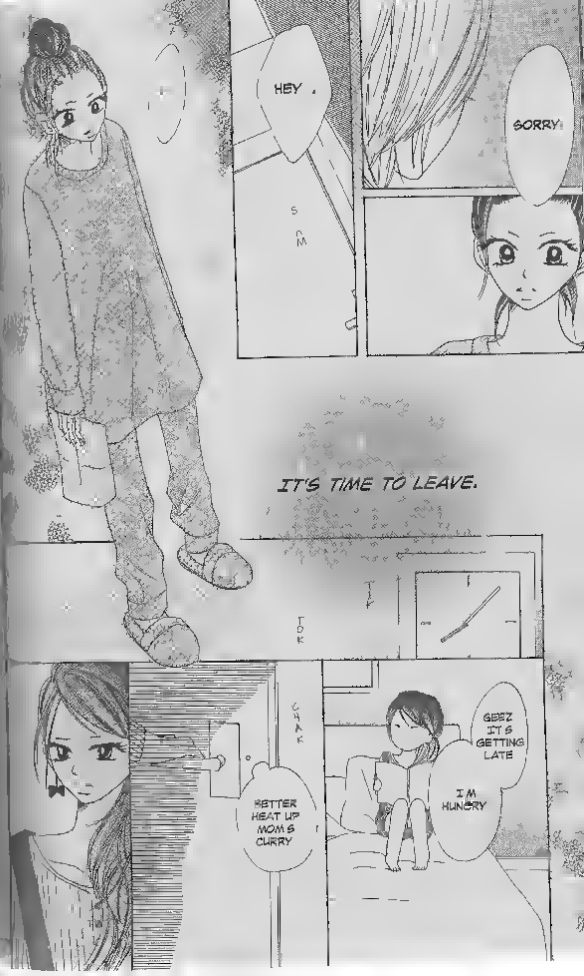
Final Note

I plan on wearing a lot of one pieces this summer ♡ It's a personal fad of mine to dress more girly Not that I have many opportunities to dress up I'm basically always in my pjamas!! I love pajamas!!

I enjoy shopping for the softest, most comfortable pajamas I can afford! I like cute ones that have a certain amount of usefulness to them It's better if they're not too cute!! The droopy...comfortable ones are the best! ♡

Whew I got a little excited there and now I'm out of space But that was fun I'm sure you're all wondering what was fun about it Thanks for putting up with me!

Thank you!



...
IS HE...
SORRY
XOXO
WHUT
...HAVING A BAD DREAM?
PCH
CHING
WHOA!
WHUP

SHIFTING
I SHOULD AT LEAST OFFER HIM SOME DINNER.
SORRY.
CHIK
UM.. HELLO?
XOXO
AVZ
KCV
HE'S ASLEEP.
in an awkward position.
KO
WHUP
WHUP
HE'S GOTTA BE HUNGRY
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
SHOULD I WAKE HIM UP?

CHAK
THAT WAS CREEPY.
...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON...
...BUT I SHOULDN'T GET INVOLVED.
HELD BACK...
GT
HE DIDN'T LOOK SO GOOD.
LIKE HE WAS SICK.
IN FACT, HE HASN'T LOOKED WELL THIS WHOLE TIME.
AND HE FORGOT TO EAT

LH
WHAT IS IT?
Is something wrong?
KAEDE?
OH...
...WAS WONDERING IF YOU WANTED SOME OF MY MOM'S CURRY.
I...
...UH...
I'LL CALL YOU WHEN IT'S READY
I GUESS I HAVEN'T EATEN ANYTHING TODAY.
TAF
TAF

THANKS
...BUT YOU CAN STAY AS LONG AS YOU WANT.
GASP
I THINK THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN HIM SMILE.
Not much of a smile though.
HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA STAY, KAEDE?
I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE.
I DIDN'T MEAN WHAT I SAID THIS AFTERNOON.
IT JUST KINDA CAME OUT WRONG.
THANKS.
WOW! YOUR MOM'S A GOOD COOK! Sweet
How 'bout her
BUT SHE ALWAYS COOKS FOR ME
SHE GOES OUT AND PARTIES A LOT
AWK
...
WIRED
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO.
UH—
UM...

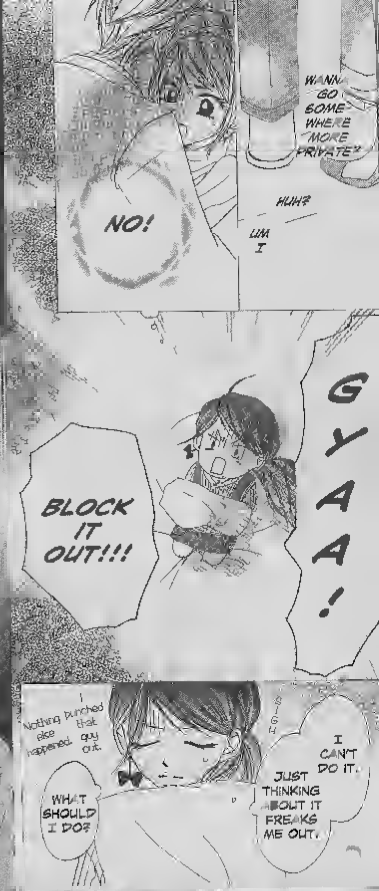
I SAID YOU CAN LEAVE YOUR PLATES
BEFORE THAT
KLAK
!!!
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?
HUH?
YOU CAN LEAVE YOUR PLATES THERE
I'll do em.
YEAH
YOU SURE IT WASN'T JUST A DREAM?
A fantasy
YOU ACTUALLY DATED SOMEBODY?
HUH?
YOU BROKE UP? YOU DID HAVE A GIRLFRIEND?
WHAT WAS THAT?
OH, NOTHING, JUST TALKING TO MYSELF.
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
PARTY
INVITATION
I'VE GOTTA FIND A DATE
Watching fishes
I'M LEAVING AS SOON AS MY MOM GETS BACK!!!
That witch!
IT'S SO BORING OUT HERE IN THE BOONDOCKS.
AND I'VE GOT STUFF TO DO BACK HOME.
BEING NICE
I DOUBT HE REALLY HAS ONE
ISN'T YOUR GIRLFRIEND GONNA MISS YOU WHILE YOU'RE GONE?
WE BROKE UP.
I DON'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND.
I KNEW IT!!
Not hard to guess.

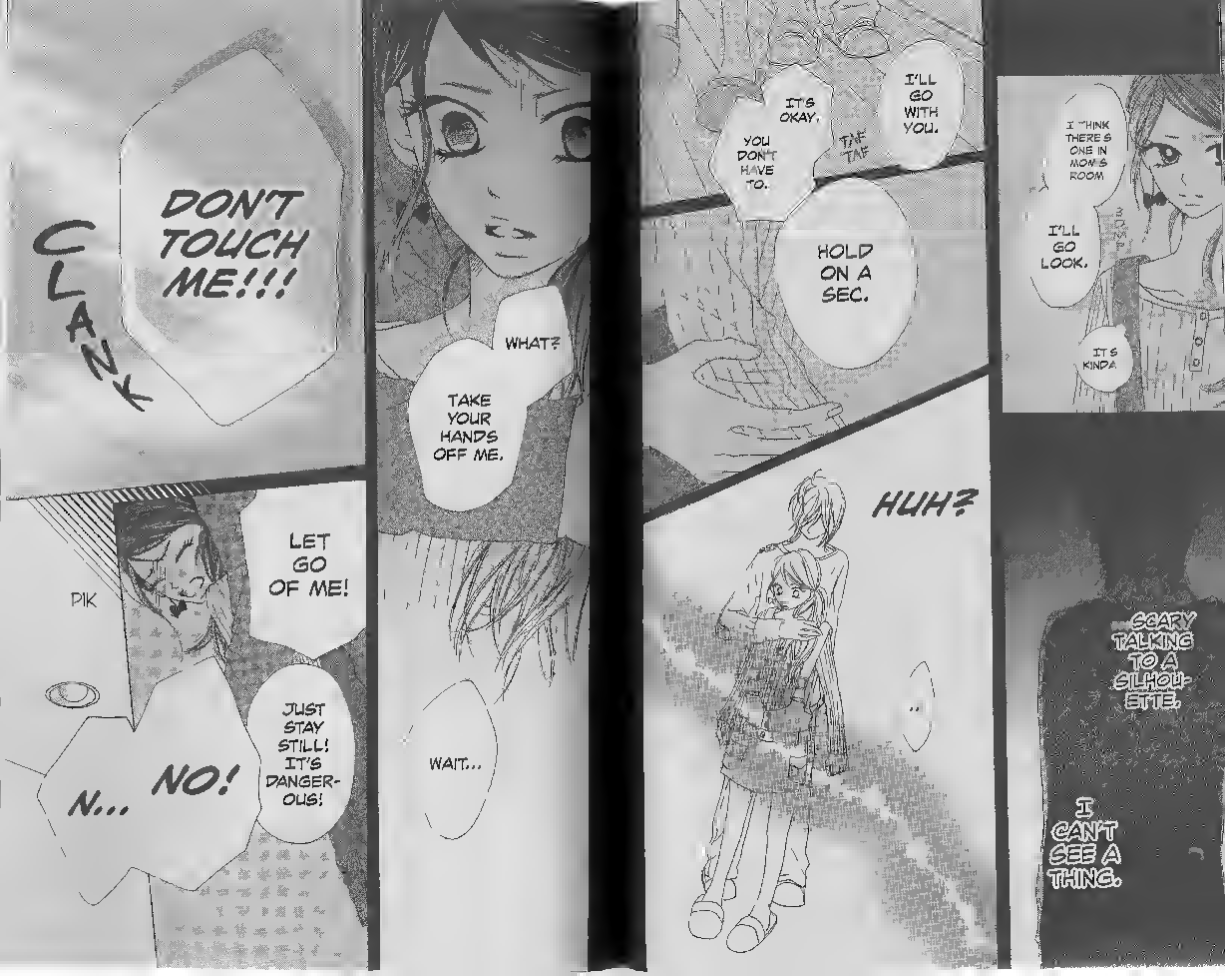
THEY PROBABLY MADE OUT AND EVERYTHING...
HE'S A TOTAL MESS, BUT HE HAD A GIRLFRIEND.
THANKS FOR TAKING ME HOME.
YEAH.
KAEDE
LET GO OF MY HAND.
GRB
I...
I'VE LIKED YOU FOR A LONG TIME.
FUN PARTY, HUH?
GIRL
GRB
OKAY, CALM DOWN
EVERY-BODY DOES IT

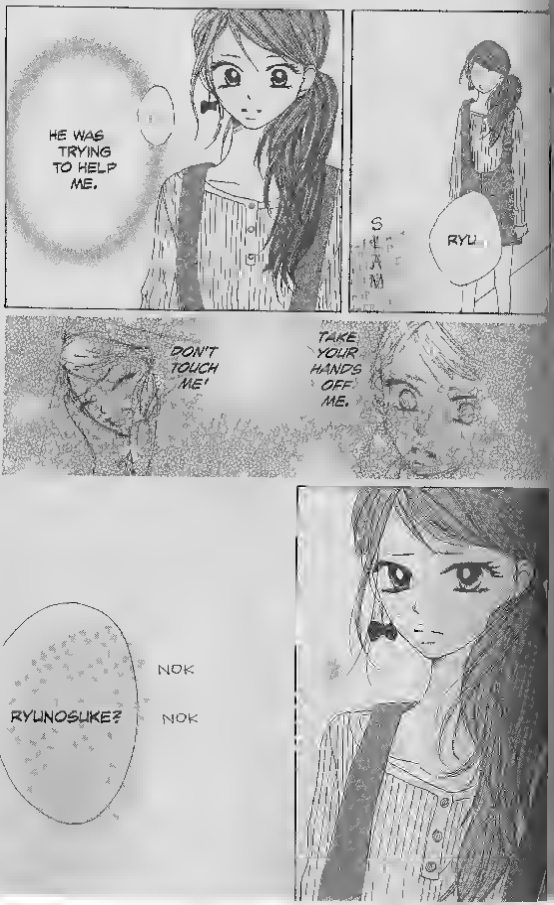
I NEED TO BE ALONE.
YUP
K.
WUP
KAEDE?
YEAH.
SLAM
?
NO OO
...CAN GET A DATE!!
A poorly haired dork in sweat pants
EVEN A GUY LIKE THAT...

AM I ALWAYS GONNA BE LIKE THIS WITH GUYS?

KLIK

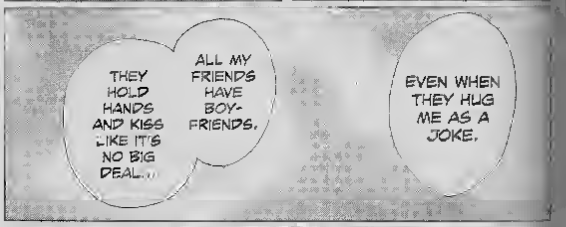


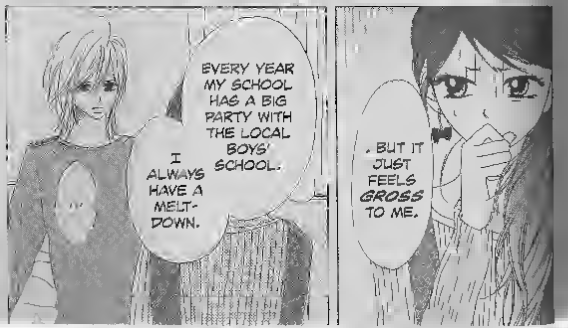

CLANK
DON'T TOUCH ME!!!
PIK
LET GO OF ME!
N... NO!
JUST STAY STILL! IT'S DANGER-OUS!
WHAT?
TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME.
WAIT...
I'LL GO WITH YOU.
IT'S OKAY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO.
TAP TAP
HOLD ON A SEC.
HUH?
I THINK THERE'S ONE IN MOM'S ROOM
I'LL GO LOOK.
IT'S KINDA
SCARY TALKING TO A SILHOU-ETTE.
I CAN'T SEE A THING.


HE WAS TRYING TO HELP ME.
SLAM
RYU...
DON'T TOUCH ME!
TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME.
RYUNOSUKE?
NOK
NOK

YOU GOTTA BE CAREFUL IN THE DARK
HUH?
No way
UH
ANYWAY THE LIGHTS ARE BACK ON
WE'LL BE FINE NOW
?!
I TOLD YOU SO.

I CAN'T...
...STAND HAVING BOYS TOUCH ME.


THEY HOLD HANDS AND KISS LIKE IT'S NO BIG DEAL...
ALL MY FRIENDS HAVE BOY-FRIENDS.
EVEN WHEN THEY HUG ME AS A JOKE.


...
I ALWAYS HAVE A MELT-DOWN.
EVERY YEAR MY SCHOOL HAS A BIG PARTY WITH THE LOCAL BOYS' SCHOOL.
...BUT IT JUST FEELS GROSS TO ME.

I'M SORRY ABOUT EARLIER...
WHAT IS IT?
...

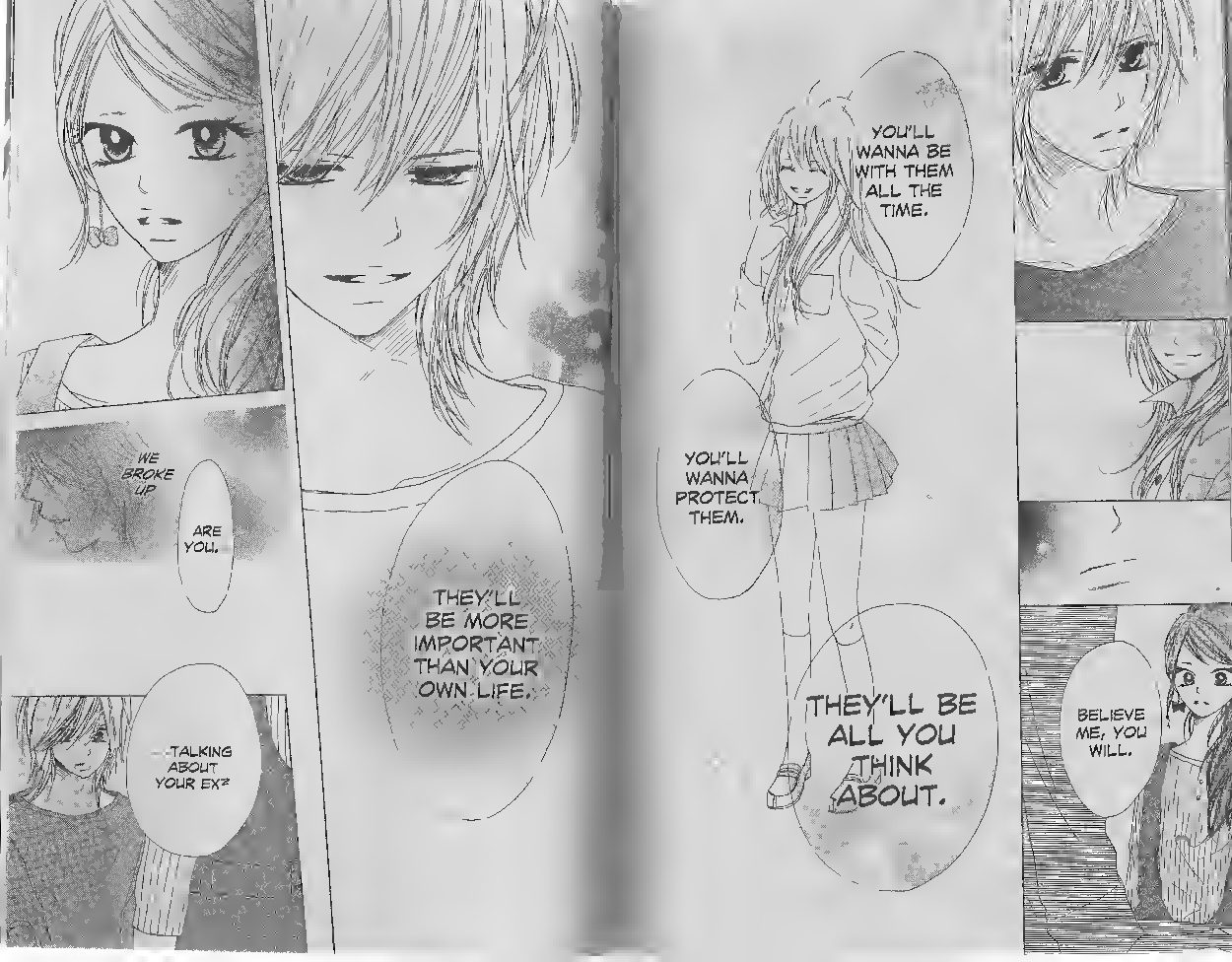
YOU UP?

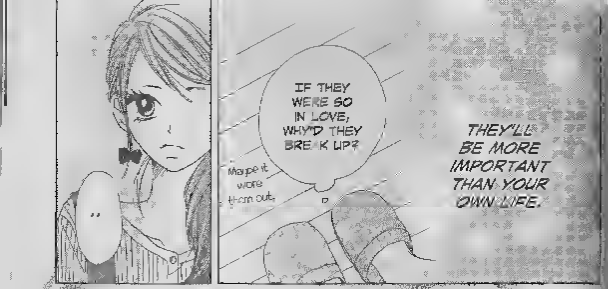
FORGET ABOUT IT.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE SCREAMED LIKE THAT.

I...

YEAH.
YOU... THINK SO?
YOU JUST HAVEN'T MET THE RIGHT PERSON.
...
ONE OF THESE DAYS YOU'LL MEET A GUY YOU WANNA TOUCH.
WILL I KNOW WHEN I'M IN LOVE?
DO YOU ..
..THINK I'LL KNOW?

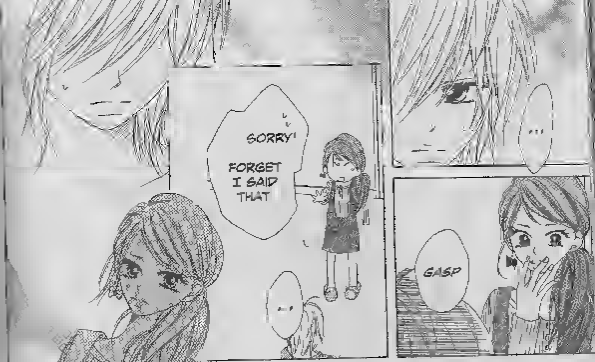
I DON'T KNOW.
I'VE NEVER LIKED ANYBODY
WHAT IF IT'S A GUY YOU LIKE?
I'M IN HIGH SCHOOL AND I STILL HAVEN'T HAD A BOYFRIEND...
PRETTY WEIRD, HUH?
UM
I'M SORRY.
SORRY ABOUT WHAT?
SHIIING
WHY AM I...
TELLING HIM MY LIFE STORY?
Did I creep him out?


WE BROKE UP
ARE YOU.
—TALKING ABOUT YOUR EX?
THEY'LL BE MORE IMPORTANT THAN YOUR OWN LIFE.
YOU'LL WANNA BE WITH THEM ALL THE TIME.
YOU'LL WANNA PROTECT THEM.
THEY'LL BE ALL YOU THINK ABOUT.
BELIEVE ME, YOU WILL.

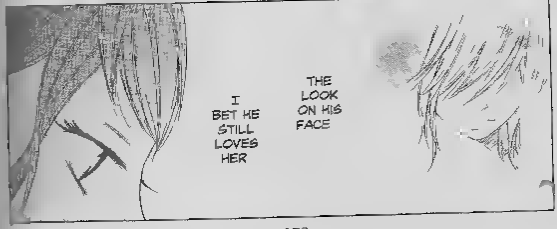


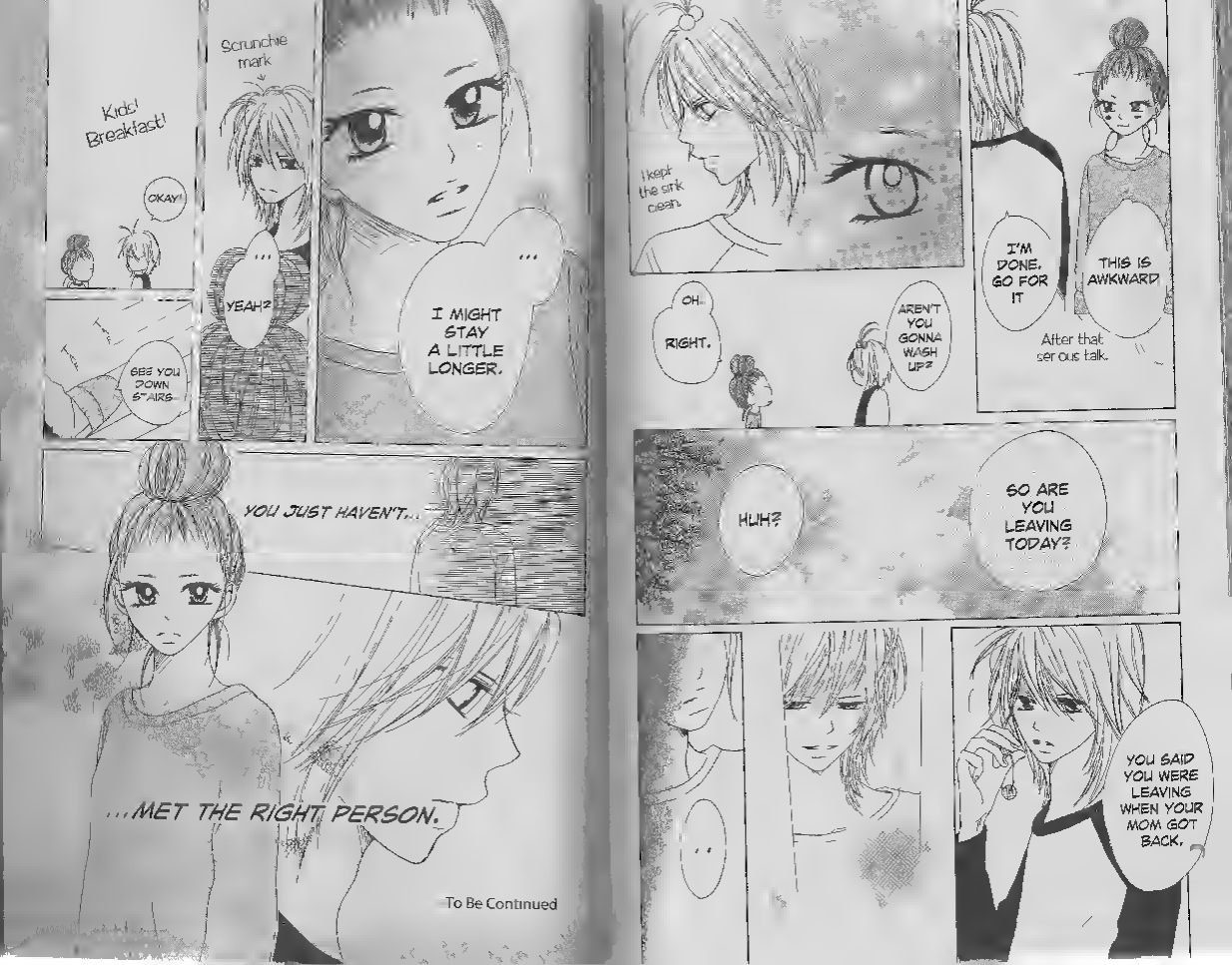
WHEN WILL I...

...KNOW THAT FEELING?



CHAK




Kids! Breakfast!
OKAY!
Scrunchie mark
...
YEAH?
...
I MIGHT STAY A LITTLE LONGER.
SEE YOU DOWN STAIRS.
YOU JUST HAVEN'T...
...MET THE RIGHT PERSON.
To Be Continued
I kept the sink clean.
OH. RIGHT.
AREN'T YOU GONNA WASH UP?
I'M DONE. GO FOR IT
THIS IS AWKWARD
After that serious talk.
HUH?
SO ARE YOU LEAVING TODAY?
..
YOU SAID YOU WERE LEAVING WHEN YOUR MOM GOT BACK.

Shojo Beat
MANGA FROM THE HEART

THE REAL DRAMA BEGINS IN...

B.O.D.Y.

Dear Valentine,

When we two parted
And you disappeared
I felt brokenhearted
But I dried my tears.
I'd hoped you'd move on
And try to make the most...
But I just heard you've gone
Back to work as a host!

Be mine!

Everyone thinks 16-year-old Ryoko has weird taste in guys because she can't stop drooling over Ryunosuke, the strong silent type who sits next to her in class. When she discovers he works for a host club—where women actually pay men to date them—will she finally wise up? Only one thing's for sure in ***B.O.D.Y.***—you can't put a price on love!

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Story & Art by
Ao Mimori

She could hire him to date her, but she'd rather win his heart.